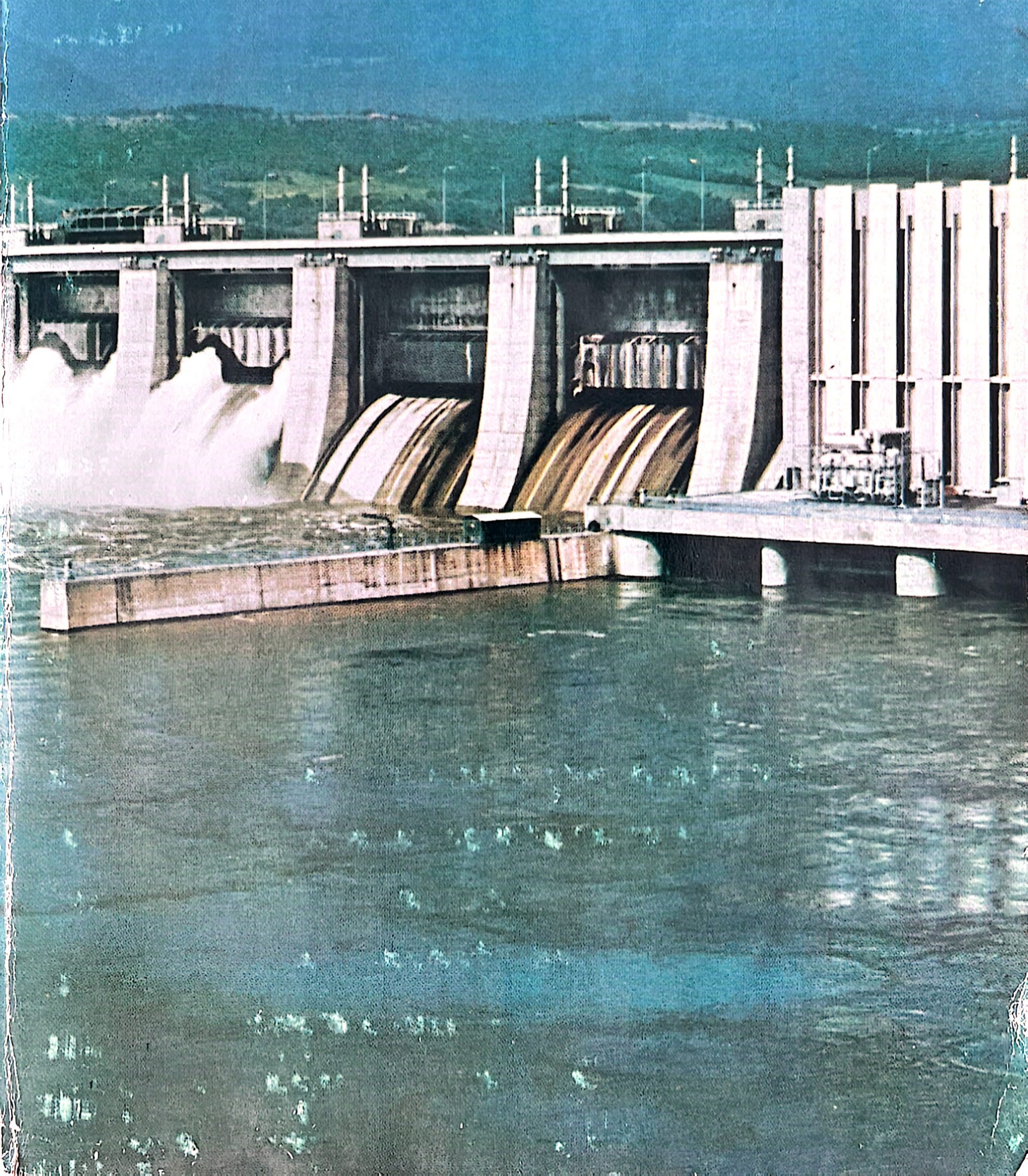
ROMANIA

YESTERDAY
TODAY
AND
TOMORROW



The coat of arms

of

the Socialist Republic of Romania

NICOLAE CEAUȘESCU

President of the Socialist Republic of Romania

ROMANIA

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TODAY
AND
TOMORROW

a brief survey by
IOAN BOTAR

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Bucharest
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ROMANIA
— some facts and figures —

Official name:	The Socialist Republic of Romania.
Area:	237,500 sq.km.
Population:	21,142,000 inhabitants in 1975.
State system:	sccialist republic.
Official language:	Romanian.
Capital city:	Bucharest (with more than 1,600,000 inhabitants).
Currency:	Leu (1 leu = 100 bani).
The subsoil:	coal, oil, natural gas, iron ore, gold and silver ores, zinc, lead, aluminium, salt etc.
Principal economic branches:	industry (engineering, iron-and stel, chemicals, energy, woodworking, building materials, light and food industries, textiles etc.); agriculture (cereal crops, wine growing, fruit growing, live stock breeding); building, transport, trade and tourism.
The national flag:	Blue, yellow and red.
National day:	August 23.

GEOGRAPHY

From the crests of the Carpathians to the plains and the delta of the Danube — the realm of reed and wild birds — the territory of Romania impresses by the variety, harmony and symmetry of its forms of relief. The country is crossed by the Carpathian mountains from whose central arch all the rivers are rising which flow into the lower reaches of the Danube, the old navigable waterway crossing Romania in the south over a distance of 1,070 km before flowing into the Black Sea, whose Romanian shore has a length of 245 km. The territory of Romania can be compared to a citadel. Around the vast central plateau of Transylvania, having an altitude of 400—600 m, the Carpathians are sometimes rising to a height of more 2,500 m, forming a veritable crown, around which there is a belt of hills descending gradually from a height of 1,000 m into the plains and to the sea. This territory of a rare symmetry was the cradle of the Romanian people and gave it continuity in ancient Dacia. The territorial harmony of the country is matched by the wealth of its soil and subsoil which is of a very wide range in comparison to the relatively limited area of Romania. The black earth of the plains and the soil in the hilly regions and the highlands favour the growing of wheat, maize, sugar-beet, potatoes, hemp and flax and other plants. The vine-yards and the plum, apple, pear, apricot and other fruit tree plantations cover a considerable part of the hills and depres-sions. The forests of beech, oak and fir trees cover a consi-derable part of the mountain sides and the grassland in the mountains has favoured livestock breeding for many centu-

ries. The hilly regions have important deposits of oil, salt and coal, and the Transylvanian plateau has some of the richest methane resources in the world. The mountains have a great variety of minerals, including gold and silver ores which have been mined since antiquity, bauxite, copper, pyrites, mercury, iron etc.

The Carpathians, belonging to the mountain system of the Alps and Himalayas, are relatively young mountains which emerged in the Tertiary. On the territory of Romania, these mountains form three branches which circle the Transylvanian plateau, that is the Eastern Carpathians, the Southern Carpathians and the Western Carpathians. Their geological formations are of a great variety. The big crystal shists forming the highest peaks are dominant in the Southern Carpathians and in the northern part of the Eastern Carpathians, while volcanic rocks are frequent in the Eastern Carpathians, where they form the longest volcanic chain in Europe and where the old craters are still visible in some places. The only volcanic lake in Romania is located in such an old crater; Lake Sf Ana. The more than 1,000 mineral springs in these mountain chains are a result of volcanic activity.

The Carpathians are crossed by many longitudinal and transversal valleys, as well as by numerous depressions, some of them being very large and having the aspect of interior plains at altitudes ranging from 200—600 m, such as Țara Bîrsei in the Eastern Carpathians and Țara Hațegului in the Southern Carpathians.

The Eastern Carpathians extend from the northern frontier of Romania southward to the Prahova valley and are made up of three parallel chains running from the north-west to the south-east: the zone of the paleogene flysch to the east, the zone of the mesozoic crystals in the centre and the neogene volcanic chain to the west. The highest peak is in the northern part (Pietrosul, in the Rodna mountains, 2,305 m), the best known by tourists is the Ceahlău massif (1,904 m), whose fantastic forms have given birth to very old legends. The Eastern Carpathians comprise interior depressions, some of which are big plains (the Maramureș and Brașov depressions), and they also are Romania's most important forest

zone, with the dominant species being high-class softwood (spruce fir and fir).

The Southern Carpathians, also known as the Transylvanian Alps because of their more massive aspect, range from the Prahova valley in the east to the tectonic corridor of the Timiș, Cerna and Bistra valleys in the west. Mount Moldoveanu (2,543 m) in the Făgăraș mountains is the highest peak in the Romanian Carpathians. There are few depressions in this part of the Carpathians, the biggest being those of Brezoi-Titești and Petroșani the latter being the most important coalfield (pitcoal) in Romania. The erosion platforms, used as meadows, are numerous and the vestiges of quaternary glaciation are evident: crests, glaciary circuses and especially glacial lakes such as Bîlea, Bucura, Zănoaga, Podragu, Avrig and others.

The Western Carpathians, situated between the Danube at the south and the Someș river in the north, are a geological and morphological synthesis of the two preceding branches. These mountains are not very high (the highest being Curcubîta Mare, 1,848 m), but because of the very great variety of the rocks the landscape is highly diversified and the mineral deposits are just as variegated, including gold and silver ores, bauxite, pyrites etc. In the chalk zones of these mountains there are some of the biggest and most interesting caves in this country (Cetățile Ponorului, Meziad, Scărișoara, with a glacier of 5,5 km) and narrow passes of great beauty (Cheile Turzei). Within the Carpathian arch is the Transylvanian plateau, a hilly region at an average altitude of 500 m. There are two distinctive regions: the Transylvanian plateau as such, south of the Mureș valley, with a variegated relief and an altitude of up to 600 m, and the Transylvanian plain, north of the river Mureș, with a more even relief and at a lower altitude (500 m).

To the east, the Carpathians are bordered by the sub-Carpathians, whose origins are similar. Having the form of chains, with a small altitude (300—1,000 m) and on the fringe of depressions of a hilly type (the biggest being Tara Vrancei), the sub-Carpathians were a refuge of the Romanian people during the period of the big invasions of the migra-

ling peoples. The sub-Carpathians have rich mineral resources, oil, salt and lignite and represent the most important wine and fruit growing zone of this country.

In Eastern Romania, between the sub-Carpathians and the Prut river, there is the Moldovian plateau (altitude 500—600 m). It is made up of three units, the Suceava plateau, the central Moldovian plateau and the Tutova hills.

In South-Eastern Romania, between the Danube and the Black Sea, there is the plateau of the Dobrudja which looks like a terrace commanding the Danube and the Black Sea. This old region is flat and has almost no rivers.

The plains, former beds of the sea and afterwards of lakes, having emerged following the great geological changes occurring during the formation of the Carpathians, occupy an important area of the country's territory (33 per cent) in the south and the west. Southern Romania is occupied by the lower Danube plain, made up of the Oltenian plain west of the Olt — high, with big and deep valleys (up to 100 m) — and the Romanian plain, east of the Olt and remarkable for its flatness (especially the Bărăgan). In Western Romania we have the western plain, the eastern section of the Panonian plain, slightly inclining towards the Tisa and crossed by numerous rivers with wide but not very deep valleys carrying slow-moving water.

The Delta of the Danube, (5,050 sq. km, of which 4,340 sq. km on Romanian territory) in the south-eastern part of the country, represents the youngest territory of Romania. It is the realm of reed, a remarkable reservoir of fish and a refuge for wild birds unique in Europe.

The climate of Romania is of the temperate continental type, with variations depending on the relief and the general movement of the atmospere. Its general feature is mild and it lacks strong contrasts.

In Western Romania winter is mild and plentiful rain and snow are affected by oceanic influences. In the eastern part of the country the winter is relatively harsh and marked by snowstorms; the summer is often tropical and very dry, being influenced by the excessively continental climate of

the great Russian plain. In South-Western Romania, the sub-Mediterranean influence is evident.

Annual average temperatures are 11 degress Celsius in the south and 8.5 degrees Celsius in the north. The highest and lowest recorded temperatures were 44.5 degrees Celsius in the Bărăgan and — 38.5 degrees Celsius near Brașov. Annual avera rain and snow amounts to 690 mm, the maximum being recorded in the mountains (annual average 1,400 mm) and the minimum in the Dobrudja (below 400 mm annually).

The Rivers of Romania rise in the central crown of the mountains and most of them flow into the Danube, which enters Romania through the longest European defile and eventually flows into the Black Sea through three branches (Chilia, Sulina and Sf. Gheorghe) which comprise the huge Delta. The hydrological regime is of the moderate continental type and has a high hydropower potential (estimated at ten million kw). Romania has more than 2,000 lakes of different forms, origins and sizes, to be found at all levels of the territory. The best known lakes are situated at high altitudes. Their water is very clear and they are found especially in the glacial valleys. There are many fish ponds in the Transylvanian plateau and in Northern Moldova, also river lagoons near the Danube and maritime lagoons in the Dobrudja, as well as natural and artifical reservoir lakes.

The Flora and Fauna. Romania has a variegated vegetation based on the woods common in Central Europe. In the course of centuries the forests were changed by man and crops began to be planted following deforestation. Woods and forests cover 26.6 per cent of Romania's territory. Up to an altitude of 800 m, oaks are dominant, up to 1,400 m beeches, followed by spruce and fir trees up to an altitude of 1,600—1,800 m, where the alpine grassland begins. Romania's fauna is very rich. Some of the animals are rare and attract hunters. The black chamois, the only European antilope considered a monument of nature, ranges over the mountain peaks. The aurochs, which used to populate the Carpathians, has been recolonized in

Ţara Haţegului. The forest animals include the brown bear, the Carpathians stag, the wolf, the fox, the wild boar, the lynx, the marten etc. Migrating and native birds are to be found especially in the marshes and the Delta of the Danube. There are considerable quantities of fish, the most valuable being the sturgeon, which comes from the Black Sea and travels up the Danube. Reservations and national parks have been created to protect rare natural landscapes, rare plants and animals.

HISTORY

Inhabited since ancient times, the territory of Romania has numerous archeological vestiges from the Paleolithic, in the valle of the Dîrjov (county of Olt) and the Valea Lupului (county of Iaşi), from the Mezolithic, at Băile Herculane (Caraş Severin), and the Neolithic, known for its vast cultural areas typical of these parts (the cultures of Criş, in the Banat, Boian, in Wallachia, Gumelniţa, in the Dobrudja, Cucuteni, in Moldova etc.). The big Indo-European migration at the end of the 3rd millenium B.C. produced important changes in the population pattern in these parts. The new links established during that period with the more developed regions in the south enabled the bronze civilization to reach and develop in the Carpathian-Balkan space, inhabited by Thracian tribes, throughout almost the entire second millenium. Tribal unions were formed which had fortified centres at Otomani (county of Bihor), Sărata Monteoru (county of Buzău) and Tei (Bucharest). During the iron age, starting in the first millenium B.C., the Geto-Dacians detached themselves from the Thracian group from the ethnic and linguistic points of view. Herodotus called the Geto-Dacians the most courageous and honest Thracians. (The Getae and the Dacians were two names for the same population, the only difference between them being of a regional nature).

During this period the Geto-Dacians assimilated the south Thracian Scythian, Greek (via the Black Sea coast cities of Tomi, Histria and Callatis) and Celtic influences. The first political organizations became crystallized: one in the Danube plain led by Dromichaites (300 B.C.) and in the first century

B.C. the Dacian slave state led by Burebista (70—44 B.C.), centered on Southern Transylvania.

Dismembered after the death of Burebista, the Dacian state was reconsolidated under Decebal (87—106 A.D.). Repeated conflicts between the Romans and the Dacians were climaxed by the two campaigns (101 and 105—107) undertaken in Dacia by Emperor Trajan, which led to the destruction of the Dacian state and the transformation of a great part of Dacia into a Roman province (106—271). The massive and systematic colonization of the new province with Roman and Romanized elements and the introduction of Latin as the official language led to the Romanization of the Dacians and the formation of the Daco-Roman population, the basic element in the ethnogenesis of the Romanian people. After the withdrawal of the Roman administration and army to the southern bank of the Danube (271), the Daco-Roman population maintained its ethnic character and uninterruptedly continued its old occupations on the same territory; livestock breeding and agriculture. And from the political, economic and cultural viewpoints it continued to gravitate towards the Roman and Byzantine empires. During the one thousand years between the withdrawal of the imperial administration from Dacia and the formation of the Romanian feudal states, the territory of Dacia was crossed by successive waves of Germanic, Slavonic and Turanic populations, some of which established themselves for a time on this territory and were assimilated in part by the native population. This is the historical period during which the Romanian language and people took shape, a process completed towards the end of the tenth century. By its origins, structure and vocabulary, Romanian is a Romance language, the only direct successor of the Latin spoken in the Balkan provinces of the Roman Empire. The last centuries of the first millenium were characterized by the dismemberment of the village communities and the formation of property of the feudal type, by the birth of state formations. Among the latter, the most importat were those led by Gelu, Glad and Menumorut (loth century) in Transylvania (gradually occupied by the Hungarians in the 11—13th centuries), by Satza, Sestlav and Tatos (11th century) in the Dobrudja, the one in the valley of the Bîrlad in Moldova (12th century)

and those led by Litovoi, Ioan, Farcaș and Seneslau (13th century) on the left and right banks of the Olt. Following the strengthening of feudal relations and favourable external circumstances, the independent feudal states of Wallachia and Moldova emerged in the 14th century. The historical evolution of the Romanian people during the Middle Ages was marked by its division into three state formations: Wallachia, Moldova and Transylvania. There were strong economic, political and cultural links across the centuries between Wallachia, Moldova and Transylvania (the latter having been incorporated by the Hungarian kingdom as a principality with a certain autonomy) and the Romanian people remained a well-defined ethnic entity. In Transylvania, politically dominated by the Hungarian aristocracy and the Transylvanian Saxon patricians, the Romanians (with the exception of the native nobility most of which became Magyarized) accounted for the majority of the class of serfs who, together with the Hungarian serfs, frequently rose against the feudal masters, especially in the 15th and 16th centuries (1437—1438 and 1514). The two Romanian feudal states to the south and east of the Carpathians freed themselves from Hungarian domination: Wallachia under Basarab I (1310—1352) and Moldova under Bogdan I (1359—1365). Their most important successors, Mircea the Old (1386—1418) in Wallachia and Alexander the Kind (1400—1432) in Moldova, completed the political and institutional organization of the two lands. In the 14th and 15th centuries the feudal Romanian states had to fight the expansionist trends of the kingdoms of Hungary and Poland and began the long struggle of defence against the Ottoman Empire, a fight in which Mircea the Old and Vlad the Impaler (1456—1462 and 1476) of Wallachia, Stephen the Great (1457—1504), who won the great Moldovian victory at Vaslui (1475), and Iancu of Hunedoara, Prince of Transylvania, distinguished themselves. The Turkish occupation of the fortresses on the northern bank of the Danube (Turnu, Giurgiu, Brăila and Chilia) and of Cetatea Albă, the transformation of the Tartar Khanate of the Crimea into a vassal state of the Ottoman Empire (1475) and the collapse of Hungary after the battle of Mohacs (1526) obliged the Romanian Lands to accept Ottoman suzerainity, but they continued to have

an autonomous existence and their own internal organization. The following period was marked by the transformation of Transylvania into an autonomous principality (1541), by the heroic attempt made by Ion Vodă the Brave (1572—1574) to win back independence for Moldova and especially by the epic feat of Michael the Brave, Prince of Wallachia (1593—1601) who won independence for his country and was the first to achieve the political union of Wallachia, Moldova and Transylvania, in 1600. In the 17th and 18th centuries the mos remarkable reigns were those of Matei Basarab (1633—1654) and Constantin Brîncoveanu (1688—1714) in Wallachia and of Vasile Lupu (1634—1653) and Dimitrie Cantemir (1710—1711) who had an important role in the struggle for emancipation from Ottoman domination and in the cultural development of the principalities.

In Transylvania, which after the peace of Karlowitz (1699) became a province of the Habsburgh empire, there were powerful peasant movements, climaxed by the big peasant rising of 1784—1785 led by Horia, Cloşca and Crişan.

During this period and in the context of the revolutionary upsurge in the world, there was a crystallization of the Romanian bourgeoisie's ideology, in which the idea of the nation played the major role. The initiator of the movement was Archbishop Ioan Inochientie Micu (Clain) who, relying on the autochtonous character and numerical preponderance of the Romanian population, demanded the raising of the status of the Romanians from tolerated persons to that of a nation having equal rights with the other nations that had subseguently settled in Transylvania —Magyars, Saxons and Szeklers.

The ideas formulated by Ioan Inochientie Micu (Clain) were carried forward and detailed at the end of the 18th century during the actions of the leaders of the Romanian nation of Transylvania, and written into the Supplex libellus Valachorum (1791).

At the end of the 17th and the beginning of the 18th centuries, the autonomy of the Romanian Lands was considerably limited. Transylvania was ruled by a governor named by the Court of Vienna (starting in 1691), and Moldova (since 1711) and Wallachia (since 1716) were ruled by princes appointed by the sultan from the elite of the Greek society

of Constantinople, the Phanariots. Although loyal to the Porte, some of the Phanariot rulers, for instance the remarkable Constantin Mavrocordat, initiated a number of fiscal, social, administrative and law reforms climaxing with the abolition of serfdom in Wallachia (1746) and Moldova (1749), the first measure of its kind in Eastern Europe. Powerful peasant movements occurred in Transylvania, climaxing in the great rising of 1784—1785 led by Horia, Cloşca and Crişan.

The repeated wars waged by Austria and especially by Russia against the Ottomon empire (some of them on the teritory of the Roman Lands) led to important territorial losses. Oltenia was ceded to Austria (1718—1738), the Bucovina was annexed by Austria (1775). Following the Russian-Turkish war of 1806—1812 and the Peace Treaty of Bucharest (1812) Bessarabia was incorporated by Tsarist Russia.

The early 19th century was marked by the growth of the movement for national and social emancipation, which reached its peak in the revolution of 1821, led by Tudor Vladimirescu, and resulted in the abolition of the Phanariot regime in Wallachia and Moldova, followed by the appointment of Romanian rulers. The revolutionary process was amplified and continued by the democratic bourgeois revolution of 1848—1849.

After the Russian-Turkish war of 1828—1829 and the Peace of Adrianopole, the Porte lost its commercial monopoly in the Romanian Lands and the two principalities were placed under Russian military administration (1828—1834).

The latent social and political conflicts broke out during the 1848 revolution, marking the eastern limit of the European democratic revolutionary sweep. Determined by the same causes, the revolution took place almost simultaneously in the three Romanian Lands. The democratic bourgeois character of the revolution was spotlighted by the claims and targets written into the revolutionary programme: the abolition, of serfdom, the distribution of land to the peasants, freedom for trade and industry, freedom of the press and association, abolition of the Turkish and Hapsburg yoke etc.

The democratic bourgeois revolution of 1848 was a crucial moment in Romania's transition from feudalism to capitalism. It gave a powerful impetus to the self-awareness of the

Romanian people, and expressed the determination of the Moldovians, Wallachians and Transylvanians to destroy the old feudal relations, to establish a new social system, to create national unity within the frontiers of the same state and to advance on the road of progress and democracy.

After 1848 political life in the Romanian principalities was dominated by the struggle for national union within the borders of one, single state, an aim which was achieved in part through the election of the same ruler, Colonel Alexandru Ioan Cuza (1859—1866), as Prince of Moldova (January 5, 1859) and of Wallachia (January 24, 1859). The foundation of the Romanian national state, whose full integrity was achieved in 1918, had been laid.

The double election of Alexandru Ioan Cuza was followed by a sustained political campaign. Its aim was recognition by the suzerain power (the Porte) and the guarantor powers and then the achievement of constitutional and administrative union, which became a fact on January 24, 1862, when Wallachia and Moldova became a single state under the name of Romania, having a single national assembly, one government, and one capital — Bucharest.

After the creation of the modern national Romanian state, Prince Alexandru Ican Cuza and his closest associate, Mihail Kogălniceanu, initiated important reforms (secularization of monastery property in 1863, the 1864 agrarian reform providing for the emancipation of bondsmen and distribution of land to them, administrative organization and educational reform) which helped in the country's general social-economic progress and created a wide framework for the capitalist development of Romania.

Obliged to abdicate on February 11, 1866 by a coalition of conservatives and radical liberals hostile to his reforms, Cuza was replaced by a regency, which three months later brought Prince Carol de Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen to this country and proclaimed him on May 10, 1866 Prince of Romania under the name of Carol I (since 1881 King of Romania).

The favourable historical circumstances created by the intensification of the general movement for the national liberation of the peoples of the Balkans by the outbreak of the Russian-Turkish war facilitatod the proclamation of

Romania's state independence on May 9, 1877, a right defended and won on the battlefield alongside of Russia in the 1877—1878 war against Turkey. Internationally recognized by the Peace Treaty of San Stefano and the 1878 Congress of Berlin, the proclamation of state independence gave the Romanian people the possibility of fighting in more favourable conditions for social liberation and for the completion of national integrity, for the return of the old Romanian territory of the Dobrogea to the Romanian state.

The period of stability between the proclamation of independence and the outbreak of the first world war was characterized in the economic sphere by an unequal development. Political life polarized around the Liberal Party, representing especially bourgeois interests, and the Conservative Party of the big landowners. The principal feature of the system of government during that period was the succession of these two parties at the helm of state.

Following the numerical growth of the working class, the first socialist and workers' circles were formed in the second half of the 19th century. The Social Democratic Party of the Workers of Romania, the political party of the Romanian proletariat, was founde in 1893. After 1848, Transylvania was ruled directly by the Hapsburgs and after the creation of the Austro-Hungarian State in 1867, it was annexed by Hungary, which increased the social and national oppresion of the Romanians of Transylvania. The Romanian National Party, the centralized political organization of the Romanian bourgeoisie of Transylvania, was created in 1881. It played an important role in the national liberation of the Transylvanian Romanians. The Memorandum Movement (1892–1894), initiated by the Romanian National Party, was the most important stage of the national and social liberation struggle in Transylvania throughout the period between the 1848 revolution and the union of Transylvania with Romania in 1918.

The failure to solve the agrarian question and the continued existence of feudal vestiges produced frequent peasant unrest which resulted in the rising of 1888 and, at the beginnins of the 20th century, the rising of 1907, the biggest peasant movement in modern Romania, which reached the pro-

portions of a peasant war, swept the entire country and was cruelly put down.

As to foreign policy, Romania joined the Central Powers in 1883 as a result of the pro-German orientation of King Carol I and several leading Romanian politicians. However, at the same time there were trends of rapprochement with the Western Powers, and especially France, and these trends became stronger on the eve of the first world war.

In 1913 Romania fought in the second Balkan war, which ended with the Peace of Bucharest (1913), under which the southern part of the Dobrudja, the counties of Durostor and Caliacra (the Cadrilater), became part of the Romanian state. After the death of Carol I, Ferdinand I (1914—1927) became king of Romania .In August 1916, after two years of neutrality, Romania entered the war alongside the Entente in the hope of achieving its aspirations for unity. By the end of the year 1917, the military situation of Romania became very difficult because of external and internal reasons. In these circumstances, the Romanian government concluded the armistice of Focşani (December 9, 1917), the preliminary treaty of Buftea (March 18, 1918) and the Peace Treaty of Bucharest (May 7, 1918), under whose terms Romania accepted heavy territorial losses and was obliged to make important economic concessions to the Central Powers. In 1918, Bessarabia became part of the Romanian state. In November 1918, the Romanian Government denounced the Treaty of Bucharest and reopened hostilities against the Central Powers. Following the defeat of the Central Powers and the dismemberment of Austria-Hungary resulting from the struggle of the oppressed nations for liberation and self-determination, the Bucovina (on November 28, 1918) and Transylvania (on December 1, 1918 united with Romania. The process of the formation of the unitary Romanian state was thus completed and this union was recognized internationally by the peace treaties concluded in 1919 and 1920. On June 28, 1919, Romania became a member of the League of Nations.

After the first world war, the principal problems Romania had to solve were the rehabilitation of the economy, the internal consolidation of the state, in the first place through the unification of legislation for the country's entire territory, and in the external field the defence of territorial integrity and the maintenance of the post-war status quo.

The first measures taken at home included a reform of the electoral system (1918) and the agrarian reform (1921). Under the latter, some 6,000,000 hectares, that is 66 per cent of the arable land belonging to the big estate owners, were expropriated under compensation. Although this agrarian reform represented only a partial solution of the peasant problem, it nevertheless contributed to the development of capitalist relations in agriculture and limited the economic and political power of the big landowners.

The process of the ideological growth of the Romanian working-class movement developed at a faster rate in the years of revolutionary upsurge (1918—1920), which was climaxed by the genera strike of 1920. A great majority of the delegates to the Congress of the Socialist Party (May 8—12, 1921) decided to transform the party into the Romanian Communist Party (PCR).

From the very start, the Communist Party asserted itself as an influential political force, which defined its attitude to the major problems worrying Romanian society and which demanded a number of changes that would contribute to the economic, social, political and cultural progress of this country. In the years 1923-1929, Romania entered a new period, which was characterized by an acceleration in the country's industrial development. The whole economy went forward. In 1923, the new constitution was adopted which proclaimed that Romania was a unitary and indivisible state. In June 1930, Carol II, who had been removed from succession in 1926 and was replaced between 1927 and 1930 by his minor son Mihai I, reigning under the tutelage of a regency council, was recalled to the country and became king (1930—1940).

The economic crisis of 1929—1933 was accompanied by a political crisis and big social battles climaxed by the strike of the Lupeni miners in 1929, the struggle of the oilworkers of Ploieşti and the railwaymen of the Bucharest Griviţa workshops (January—February 1933). The battles of January—February 1933 also were the first big political working-class manifestation after the establishment of fascism in Germany.

After the first world war, Romania carried out a number of political, economic and diplomatic actions abroad for the consolidation of the unitary Romanian national state and for the maintenance of national sovereignty and territorial integrity. In the years 1920—1921, Romania set up the Little Entente together with Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia. In 1926 a treaty of friendship and arbitration was signed with France. In the forthcoming years, participating in the diplomatic actions promoted by the big antirevisionist powers, Romania joined the Briand-Kellog Pact (1928) which banned war as a political instrument in the settlement of international conflicts, and the Moscow Protocol (1928), which speeded the application of the Briand-Kellong Pact. At the same time, Romania initiated a number of measures for the defence of peace, for a rapprochement of the countries of Central Europe and the Balkans. Romania attended the conferences of the Little Entente at Belgrade (1929) and Strbské Pleso (1930) which endorsed important measures relating to the consolidation of the Little Entente. At the Balkan conferences, Romania's representatives advocated the setting up of a political body in which all the Balkan states would participate. Romania contributed to the final regulation of the problem of war reparations at the conferences in the Hague (1929 and 1930), and at the League of Nations Assemblies (1930—1931) chaired by Romania's Foreign Minister, Nicolae Titulescu, Romania worked for the settlement of the controversial problems of disarmament and security.

Joining the efforts of the peaceful forces endeavouring to create a system of collective security, Romania initiated the reorganization of the Little Entente (1933), signed the London conventions (1933) on the definition of aggression, concluded the Balkan Pact with Yugoslavia, Turkey and Greece (1934), established diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union (1934), welcomed the signing of the mutual assistance agreements between France and the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union in 1935, and conducted negotiations for the conclusion of a Romanian-Soviet treaty of mutual assistance in 1936.

In February 1938, King Carol II established a royal dictatorship, under which measures were taken (abolition

of the 1923 Constitution, the banning of political parties etc.) which undermined the possibilities for a union of the nations's forces with a view to fighting the fascist and hitlerite danger threatening Romania's national independence and territorial integrity. After the Münich Agreement (1938) and the invasion of Czechoslovakia, Romania was forced to accept, in 1939 and 1940, the conclusion of economic treaties with Germany which gradually led to the subordination of the country's economy to the interests of Germany's aggressive policy. It was in those conditions that the Romanian Communist Party, consistently working for the organization of large-scale mass actions for the defence of national independence and territorial integrity, carried out intensive activities for the creation of the United Workers'Front and of an alliance of all the democratic and antifascist forces in the struggle against the royal dictatorship and hitlerism.

After the dismemberment of Poland, Romania's situation became still worse, and it became extremely precarious after France, the main ally of Romania, was occupied (May—June 1940) by Hitler's armies and forced to capitulate (June 1940).

Following a demand conveyed by the Soviet Government in a note addressed to the Romanian Government in June 1940, Bessarabia and Northern Bucovina became part of the Soviet Union.

After the defeats suffered by Great Britain and France on the western front, the pro-German political groups of the ruling circles of Romania strengthened their positions. Under the Vienna diktat of August 1940, forced on Romania by Hitler's Germany and fascist Italy, Northern Transylvania was wrenched from Romania and occupied by Horthy's Hungary.

Following the Romanian-Bulgarian negotiations of September 1940, the southern part of the Dobrudja (Cadrilater) became Bulgarian territory.

The fascist and pro-fascist groups, backed financially and politically by Hitler's Germany and Romania's reactionary leaders, forced Carol II to abdicate in favour of his son, Mihai I; a fascist military dictatorship was established under General Ion Antonescu (September 1940 —

August 1944). Romania's interests were completely subordinated to those of Hitler's Germany. The last vestiges of democratic rights and freedoms were abolished. German troops entered Romania, and on June 22, 1944, the country was pushed into the war against the Soviet Union. During the war, Romania's economy was ruined. The nazi yoke (1940—1944) cost Romania the equivalent of the national budget over a period of 12 years.

The resistance movement was organized under the leadership of the Romanian Communist Party. There were strikes and sabotage, and partisan detachments were active in the Bucegi mountains, Caraș, Vrancea, Parîng, in the delta of the Danube, in the Maramureș and in the zones of Suceava and Bacău. The defeats suffered at the front by the troops of the fascist military dictatorship provoked a political crisis in the ranks of the ruling circles and accentuated the anti-fascist attitude of the masses of the Romanian people and the army. The Anti-Hitler Patriotic Front was organized in 1943 at the initiative and under the leadership of the Romanian Communist Party. The royal court and certain anti-Hitler bourgeois political groups opposed to Antonescu drew close to this comprehensive new grouping of political forces. In April 1944, the United Workers' Front was set up on the basis of an anti-fascist and working-class platform, and in June 1944 the National Democratic Bloc which, after lengthy delays, was joined by the National Peasant Party and the National Liberal Party. In July and August 1944, the concrete plan for the anti-fascist and anti-imperialist armed national insurrection was finalized, on the basis of the draft which had been worked out by the basic cadres of the Romanian Communist Party in the summer of 1943. The anti-fascist armed national insurrection began and was brought to a successful conclusion in August 1944. Antonescu's government was arrested, the Romanian army turned its weapons against Hitler's Germany and, together with the patriotic fighting detachments, proceeded to the destruction of the principal German armed forces on the territory of Romania.

The anti-fascist and anti-imperialist armed national insurrection of August 1944 inaugurated a period of far-reaching transformations of renewal, marking the start of the people's revolution in Romania and opening the prospects

for the completion of the democratic bourgeois revolution and the socialist revolution. On September 12, 1944, Romania signed the armistice convention with the United Nations at Moscow. The Romanian army (37 divisions) fought heavy battles alongside the Soviet army for the liberation of the entire national territory (completed on October 25, 1944) and afterwards for the liberation of Hungary and Czechoslovakia up to the final defeat of Hitler's Germany.

Starting with the operations during the insurrection and up to May 9, 1945, Romania participated in the anti-Hitler war with 540,000 combatants, of whom 170,000 fell on the battlefield, ranking fourth as regards participation in the anti-Hitler war, after the USSR, the United States and Great Britain.

In the new internal and international circumstances, the mass of the people, led by the Romanian Communist Party, began to implement radical changes in the country's political, economy and social life. In October 1944, a new re-alignment of the democratic and patriotic forces took place under the leadership of the Romanian Communist Party, and the National Democratic From was set up. In January 1945, the unity of the trade-union movement was reestablished by the creation of the General Confederation of Labour, while the mass of the peasants, helped by the workers, began to carry out the agricultural reform in a revolutionary way. Under the pressure of the mass struggle, the governments having reactionary majorities and led by generals C. Sănătescu and N. Rădescu were removed from power. The first revolutionary democratic government in the history of Romania was set up on March 6, 1945. Chaired by Dr Petru Groza this government included the representatives of the National Democratic Front who occupied the most important positions in it. The establishment of the democratic government opened a new path to the profond revolutionary transformations in the economic, social and politic life of Romania. On March 22, the law on the agrarian reform was adopted, under which landless peasants received more than 1,100,000 hectares. The semi-feudal vestiges in agriculture and the big estates were thus abolished. The National Conference of the Romanian Communist Party was held in October 1945. It focused on the rehabilitation and development of the national eco-

nomy, priority attention being paid to heavy industry, and improvement in the living standards of the population, the strengthening of the unity of the working class and of the alliance between workers, peasants and intellectuals, and the consolidation of the unity of all democratic and anti-imperialist forces. The National Conference of the Romanian Communist Party elected Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej as the General Secretary of the Party's Central Committee. On November 19, 1946, the first really free parliamentary elections in the history of Romania were held. The Bloc of Democratic Parties, a coalition of the democratic forces led by the Romanian Communist Party, won a decisive victory (79.86 per cent of the votes), marking the complete isolation from the masses of the bourgeois-agrarian parties, which disappeared from the country's political life soon afterwards. The first democratic parliament in the history of Romania after these elections adopted a set of economic measures such as the nationalisation of the National Bank (1946), the monetary reform, the creation of the industrial offices (1947) etc. In February 1947, the Treaty of Peace with the allied and associated powers was signed in Paris. The annulment of the Vienna Dictate was juridically confirmed by the treaty. The consolidation of the democratic regime under the authority of the Romanian Communist Party made it possible to eliminate the representatives of Gheorghe Tătărescu's National Liberal Party from the government. On December 30, 1947, King Michael abdicated. Romania became a people's republic, a state of the working people of the towns and villages. The events of December 1947 completed the democratic bourgeois revolution and marked the transition to the socialist revolution. Following the union of the Romanian Communist Party and the Social Democratic Party on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism, the single revolutionary party of the working class was created in February 1948; up to 1965 it bore the name Romanian Workers' Party. On April 14, 1948, the Grand National Assembly elected on March 28, 1948, adopted the country's first democratic constitution and, on June 11, 1948, the law on the nationalisation of the main industrial enterprises, mines and banks, of insurance and transport. This made it possible to start with the planned development and management of the national economy.

The economic power of the big industrial and financial bourgeoisie had been abolished and the groundwork had been laid for the socialist state sector of the national economy. Annual economic and social development plans were carried out in the years 1949 and 1950, long-term plans in 1951—1955, 1956—1960 and 1960—1965 as well as the 1951—1960 electrification plan. The aim was the country's industrialization and the creation and development of the technical and material groundwork of socialism. In the spring of 1962, agricultural cooperativization (begun in 1949, in conformity with the programme laid down by the March 3—5, 1949 Plenary Session of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party) was completed. This marked the generalization of socialist relationships in the economy, the creation of the unitary socialist economy.

The Ninth Congress of the Romanian Communist Party, held in July 1965, adopted the programme for the country's overall development in 1966—1970, the guidelines for the continuation of the construction of socialism at a higher level and endorsed the directives on the harnessing of the country's energy resources and electrification in the ten years 1966—1975. Nicolae Ceaușescu was elected to the position of General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party. On August 21, 1965, the Grand National Assembly adopted a new Constitution proclaiming the Socialist Republic of Romania. A National Conference of the Romanian Communist Party was held in December 1967. It adopted measures for the improvement of the management and planning of the national economy. In November 1968, at the initiative of the Romanian Communist Party, the Socialist Unity Front was set up. It is a permanent and representative political body.

The fundamental aim set by the Tenth Congress of the Romanian Communist Party is the construction of the many-sidedly developed socialist society and the raising of the country's development level to that of the advanced countries of the world. Congress re-elected Nicolae Ceaușescu as General Secretary of the Romanian Communist Party.

The Plenum of the Central Committee of the Party, held on November 3—5, 1971, adopted the programme of the Romanian Communist Party for the improvement of ideological

activity, for the raising of the masses' general level of knowledge and socialist education, for the establishment of relations between the member of and society on the basis of the principles of socialist and communist ethics and equity.

The National Conference of the Romanian Communist Party of July 1972 laid down the directions and guidelines on Romania' economic and social development for the forthcoming and future years, for the improvement of the planned management of society and the development of socialist democracy, the strengthening of the leading role of the Party in the construction of socialism and communism, and the international activity of the Party and state.

The Eleventh Congress of the Romanian Communist Party was held in November 1974. The historic significance of this Congress resides in the fact that it adopted the first Programme of the Romanian Communist Party, the fundamental ideological Charter of the Party, the programme for the creation of the manysidedly developed socialist society and for the country's advance to communism. The Congress also adopted the directives on the economic and social development of Romania in 1976—1980 and up to 1990.

THE STATE SYSTEM

Romania is a socialist republic, a sovereign, independent and unitary state; its territory is inalienable and indivisible.

Under the constitution of *the Socialist Republic of Romania* adopted in August 1965, all power in Romania belongs to the people, which exercises it through the Grand National Assembly and the people's councils, bodies elected by universal, equal, direct and secret vote. The leading political force is the Romanian Communist Party. The Romanian nation comprises friendly social classes and sections: the working class, the peasantry, the intelligentsia and the other sections of the working people.

The Constitution of the country guarantees citizens the right to work and rest, material security in old age, in sickness and in case of loss of working capacity, the right to association in mass and civic organizations, to education, freedom of speech, the press and meeting, the right to elect and to be elected to the Grand National Assembly and the people's councils. The Constitution also guarantees equal rights to all the citizens in all the fields of economic, political, social and cultural life.

The Romanian economy is based od socialist (state and cooperative) ownership of the means of production. Under the Constitution, the essential attributes of the Romanian state are: the organization, planning and management of the national economy; defence of socialist property, guarantees for the full exercise of civic rights, ensurance of socialist law and order; development of education at all levels; provision of conditions for the development of science, culture and the arts, for health protection; ensurance of national

defence and organization of the armed forces; ensurance of relations with other states.

The system of state power bodies includes: *the bodies of state power* (the Grand National Assembly, the State Council, the President of the Socialist Republic of Romania, the People's Councils), the bodies of state administration (the Government, the ministries, the executive committees of the people's councils and the specialized bodies of the state administration), the *judiciary bodies* (the Supreme Tribunal, the county tribunals, the courts and military tribunals), the *Procurator's offices* (general, county, local and military).

The Constitution stipulates that the Grand National Assembly is the supreme body of state power, the only legislative body of the country. The principal attributions of the Grand National Assembly are adoption and modification of the Constitution; endorsement of the single national plan for economic and social development and of the state budget; election of the President of the Socialist Republic of Romania, the State Council, the Government, the Supreme Tribunal and the General Procurator; establishment of the norms of organization and functioning of the people's councils; control of the activity of all state bodies; establishment of the general line of the state's internal and external policy etc.

The Grand National Assembly, elected for a period of five years, works in open sessions, in plenary meetings or in commissions.

Reflectig the rights and structure of the population of Romania, regardless of nationality, the Grand National Assembly has 349 members, Romanians, Hungarians, Germans and citizens of other nationalities. As to its social structure, the supreme body of state power comprises workers, peasants, intellectuals a.o.

At the proposal of the Plenum of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party of March 1974, the Grand National Assembly adopted the Bill on the modification of the Constitution, under which the function of President of the Socialist Republic of Romania is created.

Unanimously endorsing the will and feelings of the entire Romanian nation, the Grand National Assembly elected Nicolae Ceaușescu to the high position of President of the

Socialist Republic of Romania, and in March 1975, the Grand National Assembly in its new legislature re-elected Nicolae Ceaușescu to the function of President of the Socialist Republic of Romania.

The President of the Socialist Republic of Romania is the Head of State and represents state power in the country's internal and international relations. He is elected by the Grand National Assembly for the duration of the legislature and functions up to the election of the President by the next legislature.

Under the Constitution and the laws of the country, the President of the Socialist Republic of Romania has the following principal attributions: he presides over the State Council; he presides over the meetings of the Government when this is necessary; he appoints and recalls, at the proposal of the Prime Minister, the deputy prime ministers of the government, the ministers and the chairmen of other central bodies of the state administration who are members of the government; he appoints and recalls the heads of central state bodies who are members of the government and the members of the Supreme Tribunal; he grants the ranks of general, admiral and marshal. When the Grand National Assembly is not sitting in plenary session, the President of the Republic appoints and recalls the Chairman of the Supreme Tribunal and the General Procurator.

The President of the Socialist Republic of Romania is the supreme commander of the armed forces and chairman of the Defence Council of the Socialist Republic of Romania.

The President of the Socialist Republic of Romania is responsible to the Grand National Assembly for his entire activity and periodically presents reports on the exercise of his attributions.

The State Council, the supreme body of state power having a permanent activity, is subordinated to the Grand National Assembly and has attributions between the Assembly sessions and also permanent attributions. The principal permanent attributions are: establishment of the date of elections to the Grand National Assembly and to the people's councils; organization of the ministries and other central state bodies; ratification

and denunciation of international treaties, with the exception of those whose ratification is the duty of the Grand National Assembly; establishment of military ranks; creation of decorations and honorary titles.

The President of the Socialist Republic of Romania is the President of the State Council.

The People's Councils, (county, municipal, town and communal), local bodies of state power elected by the inhabitants of the respective territorial administrative unit, are subordinated to the higher councils up to the supreme bodies of state power.

The people's councils have to secure the economic, social, cultural, and administrative development of the territorial administrative units in which they are elected, to defend socialist property, the rights of the citizens and socialist law, and to maintain public order. They also have to draw the citizens into the solution of state and civic affairs at the local level.

In their work, the people's councils are assisted by standing commissions made up of deputies and functioning by branches. The people's councils are working in ordinary and special sessions. They guide and control the activity of the respective executive committees and of the bodies of the institutions and enterprises in their subordination.

The county, municipal, town and communal people's councils have 165,060 members.

The Council of Ministers, the supreme body of state administration, exercises its attributions of leadership and control over executive activity throughout the country's territory, over the ministries and the executive committess of the people's councils. The Government can take measures in keeping with the laws adopted by the Grand National Assembly in any sector of the state administration. It also establishes general measures for the implementation of the Romanian state's internal and external policy.

The Government is responsible for its entire activity to the Grand National Assambly, and between the latter's sessions to the State Council.

The Government comprises a Prime Minister, deputy prime ministers, ministers and the chairmen of the other central bodies of state administration established by law. The Government can appoint one of the deputy prime ministers as first deputy prime minister. The Government includes, as ministers, the chairman of the Central Council of the General Confederation of Trade Unions, the chairman of the National Union of Agricultural Production Cooperatives, the chairman of the National Women's Council and the first secretary of the Central Committee of the Union of Communist Youth, this being one of the forms of the direct representation of the masses in the leadership of the state.

Collective forms of leadership replacing uni-personal leadership are applied in the activity of all central and local bodies of the state administration.

The Executive Committees of the People's Councils are bodies of the state administration having a local competence. Specialized bodies for education, culture, the arts, health, social welfare etc. are attached to them. The executive committees base themselves on the wide participation of the masses drawn into action with the assistance of the citizen's committees elected in people's assemblies in the villages, communes, districts and streets.

The chairmen of the executive committees of the municipal, town and communal people's councils also are the mayors of the respective territorial administrative units. The first secretaries of the county committees of the Romanian Communist Party are also the chairmen of the county people's councils.

The judiciary bodies have to defend the social and state order, the legitimate rights of the citizens; they have to ensure respect for the law by the state bodies, institutions, enterprises and cooperative organizations, by all the citizens of the country. Law suits in the first instance are judged in the cases stipulated by law with the participation of people's assessors together with the judges.

The procurators exercise control over the observance of the law by the ministries and other bodies of the central and local state administration, by the functionaries and

other citizens; they apply measures punishing violations of the law and for the return to lawfulness. The procurators are headed by the General Procurator who is responsible to the Grand National Assembly for the activity of the procurators and, between the sessions of the Assembly, to the State Council.

In the spirit of the measures taken to strengthen socialist lawfulness and improve the drafting of legislation in all the fields of social life, a Legislative Council attached to the State Council was set up in 1971; it is a specialized consultative body charged with assisting in the work for the preparation, coordination and systematization of legislation.

Far-reaching changes of renewal in keeping with the general revolutionary transformations in Romanian society have been carried out in the structure and profile of Romania's armed forces in the last thirty years. Romania now has a powerful and well-trained army with a high level of organization. It has modern armament and military equipment and it is aware of its mission and capable of defending the present and future existence of the Romanian socialist nation.

A permanent concern of the Romanian state is the continuous improvement of the fighting skill and political level of the army which must be able, at any time, to fulfil its duties in the defence of the gains of the people, of the independence and sovereignty of the Romanian state in the best conditions.

In full accord with the country's foreign policy, the Romanian army has developed and develops close links of collaboration with the armed forces of the countries belonging to the Warsaw Treaty, of all the socialist countries, on the basis of mutual esteem and respect, in order to strengthen solidarity in this way as well and to contribute to the unity of all the socialist countries so as to rebuff any imperialist aggression.

Political and Civic Organizations.

The entire history of the more than fifty years of the existence of *the Romanian Communist Party* (founded in 1921), the great social battles fought under its leadership, the role it had in the winning of national freedom and independence and afterwards in the work for the creation of socialism in Romania, have fully and deservedly confirmed the Romanian Communist Party as the leading political force of the country, as well as its great prestige.

The Party comprises the most advanced workers, peasants and intellectuals, regardless of nationality, the leading representatives of all social classes and sections. The Romanian Communist Party has 2,500,000 members, that is more than 17 per cent of the country's adult population and over 23 per cent of the active population. Nicolae Ceaușescu is the General Secretary of the Party.

The exercise of the Party's role as the leading political force of Romanian society is based on the study and profound knowledge of social reality, on uninterrupted consultation with the working people, on consideration of the views and requirements of the population in the solution of the problems posed by social progress.

Characteristic for the activity of the Romanian Communist Party is the continuous growth of its political and ideological influence throughout social life, its firm struggle against shortcomings in the application of the political line, its action not by administrative means but through persuasion, its permanent dialogue with the people, the live, direct contact of the Party and state leadership with the mass of the working people, its concern with the progress of work, with the improvement of activities in all the fields of economic, political and cultural life.

Guided by the belief that socialism and democracy are inseparable, that the new society is called upon to secure the widest democratic rights and liberties to the working people, their active participation in the government of the country, in all political life, the Romanian Communist Party is consistently working for the continuous improvement of the forms and methods of social organization and management, for the intensification of socialist democracy in all the sectors of social life. Especially after the Ninth Congress of the Romanian Communist Party held in 1965, measures have been applied to promote the progress of Romanian society, such as the development of the legislative and control activities of the Grand National Assembly and of the State Council, in internal and external

policy; increase in the attributions and responsibilities of the people's councils in the organization and guidance of local, social and economic activities, discussions of the problems of socialist construction with all the sections of the working people, the creation of collective management bodies in enterprises, industrial centres and ministries (in addition to the managers, these bodies include the elected representatives of the working people and of the Party, trade-union and youth organizations).

By concentrating its efforts on the development of socialist construction in Romania in the economic, political and cultural fields, the Romanian Communist Party also fulfills an essential duty to the working class throughout the world, to the forces of progress, socialism and peace.

The Trade Unions. The long history of the trade-union movement of Romania, the struggle for the interests of the working people show that the changes in the content of trade union activities in Romania, in the organizational structure and the working methods of the trade unions have evolved in close correlation to the social and political development of this country.

Within the framework of the trade unions, the working class and the other categories of working people find the best terrain to participate in the solution of all the economic, social and cultural problems of this country. The trade unions are also working for the fulfilment of all the provisions of labour laws, for the actual observance of the rights guaranteed to working people by law. They are closely concerned with the application of the principles of socialist incentives and remuneration depending on the contribution of each to the general work, on the qualitative and quantitative contribution to the progress of the enterprise and institution. The major problems of activity in enterprises and institutions are discussed in the committees or councils of the working people, in the general assemblies of the working people, which are a thoroughly democratic form of collective leadership. The chairman of the trade-union committee is a statutory member of the committee or council of working people, which is the collective body of leadership in every enterprise or institution. The chairman of the Central Council of the General Confederation of Trade Unions of Romania is a member of the Government.

Having representatives in the Government, in the collective bodies of the ministries, industrial centres, enterprises and all social and economic organizations, the trade unions are actively participating in the drafting of all the measures concerning the country's economic and social development, in the implementation of the programme for the construction of the manysidedly developed socialist society.

The basis of trade-union organization is the trade union of each enterprise and institution. Romania's trade unions have nearly six million members. They are organized in keeping with the principle of democratic centralism and place of work. On the basis of free consent and in the spirit of autonomy, they affiliate to the General Confederation of Trade Unions of Romania, which is affliliated to the World Federation of Trade Unions.

The Union of Communist Youth gathers all the professional categories of the young generation, and its principal task is the education of the youth and the channelling of its efforts for the implementation of the policy securing the country's prosperity on its socialist path. The Union of Communist Youth and its leading bodies have an active attitude towards the way in which the social problems of the youth are solved; they have a direct dialogue with the state bodies and with the other mass and civic organizations with a view to finding together the best ways of solving the living and working problems of the young generation.

The Union of Communist Youth has more than 2,500,000 members. They directly participate in economic and social activity, having a considerable share in the work of mills and factories, building sites, socialist agricultural units, cultural and educational establishments, in all the fields of social life.

A number of appropriate measures have been taken to secure the intensive participation of the youth in social life, in the management of society. The First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Union of Communist Youth is a member of the Government. Youth representatives belong

to numerous social bodies. Delegates of the Union of the Communist Student Associations of Romania (the organizational form for the activities of the Union of Communist Youth in establishments of higher education) participate in the work of the university senates and councils, and have important attributions in the administration of hostels and canteens. There is a large youth representation in the people's councils, in the committees and councils of the working people of enterprises and industrial centres (the secretary of the leading Union of Communist Youth body in each unit is a statutory member), in the management councils of the agricultural production cooperatives.

Young people are in the front ranks of the struggle for the modernization of production, for the promotion of the gains of science and technology, for the introduction of the principles of socialist ethics and equity in all the domains of social life. Young people are active in the voluntary patriotic work for the construction of the big projects of socialism.

Engaged in the vast work for the revolutionary transformation of society, for the implementation of the most advanced human ideals and aspirations, the young people of Romania are active participants in the international struggle of the progressive forces for détente and collaboration among the peoples of the world. They express their resolute solidarity with the fight for freedom and social justice of young people everywhere.

The National Women's Council. One of the great achievements of the new system in Romania is the provision of conditions for the assertion of the creative, constructive potential of women, who represent half of the country's population, in all social activities. The Romanian state pays growing attention to the working and living conditions of women, to the creation of an appropriate setting so that they may take an active part in the country's economic and social life. Permanent attention is being paid to the promotion of women in society in all fields of activity, in keeping with their capacities and aptitudes, to the continuous strengthening of the family as the basic nucleus of Romanian society.

The district and ward women's commissions, which are elected bodies, play a considerable part in Romania's civic life. They make their contribution to the solution of educational, cultural, social and administrative problems by drawing women into active participation in the political, economic and cultural life of this country. The Women's National Council, elected by the National Conference, is the leading body of the women's movement of Romania and represents the latter at home and in its relations with various women's bodies and organizations of other countries.

The Socialist Unity Front, set up in November 1968, is a permanent and largely representative democratic political body. The union, under the leadership of the Romanian Communist Party, of the mass and civic organizations representing the great majority of the country's population within the framework of the Socialist Unity Front, creates a veritable national forum, in which the largest masses of the people, regardless of nationality, effectively participate in the government of the country. The Socialist Unity Front is called upon to coordinate, under the leadership of the Romanian Communist Party, the activity of all its member organizations (the trade unions, the Union of Communist Youth, the National Women's Council, the councils of the working people belonging to the co-inhabiting nationalities, the cooperative organizations, the associations of scientists, cultural workers and artists, the religious bodies etc.); it has to draw them into economic, social, political and cultural activities, into the implementation, by their common efforts, of the common objectives deriving from the programme for the internal and external policy of the Romanian state for the construction of socialism.

The supreme body of the Socialist Unity Front is the National Council. Local activities are conducted by the county, municipal, town and communal councils. Nicolae Ceaușescu was elected to the position of Chairman of the Socialist Unity Front.

The Socialist Unity Front maintains and develops international links with a number of similar organizations in other countries.

THE ECONOMY

The Economic Mechanism. The proportional, balanced and harmonious development of the national economy is general and permanent, and it is scientifically supported by the economic state plan. Planning was introduced in 1948, after the nationalization of the principal means of industrial production, mining, banking, insurance and transport, which became the property of the state belonging to the entire people.

Plans were drawn up at the start, for one year for the years 1949 and 1950, afterwards for five-year periods comprising annual plans, and then development forecasts for 15—20 years. This planning relies on the socialist organization of the Romanian state and economy and actually means management on the basis of very precise provisions regarding the entire national economy through the establishment of its development rates and of proportions within the national economy with a view to the attainment of the envisaged objectives as to quantity and quality. Planning also makes it possible to determine and draw up the measures needed for the fulfilment of its provisions and to control the fulfilment of the plan. The working out of its development plans of the national economy inplies lengthy and laborious preparations, in the first place in order to identify the resources available to the national economy, the possibilities of increasing them in accordance with the new requirements and to have all the details as to the development level of production technologies. In the second place, it requires a precise determination of the essential objectives towards which economic means have to be directed so as to obtain the maximum coordinated economic efficiency at the level of the entire national economy.

Economic planning is an inalienable attribute of state sovereignty, the main field for the exercise of the socialist state's economic-organizational function. The plan drawn up on this basis being a central and compulsory plan, it bears the clear imprint of democratic centralism, which blends into an inseparable union the central management of the economy by the state with a large autonomy given to the production units and the large and active participation of all working people in the most diverse forms in the planned organizaion and management of the economy.

The envisaged improvements and measures aim to link management more closely to production by reducing the intermediary bodies of the organizational system and removing parallelisms in management. This concern increases the role of planning whilst improving it, that is eliminating excessive centralism and administrative limitations from the economic activity of the enterprises, and secures the assertion of collective management and work as well as material responsibility, all of which facilitate the application of local economic administration and the raising of economic efficiency.

The organization and management of Romania's republican industry relies on a modern structural basis having three distinctive echelons with well-defined attributions and responsibilities: enterprises belong to centres having an autonomous economic administration and are coordinated and controlled by the economic ministry concerned. The setting up of industrial centres, of groups of works and combines, accompanied by the rationalization of the apparatus of the economic ministries, has favoured the strengthening of autonomous and operational management of the enterprises in the exercise of their obligations. The centres draw up their own economic plans setting out from the tasks established by the general plan of the national economy. The plan of the centre thus comprises both the main indicators of the activities of its enterprises as well as the indicators of its own activity.

In the conditions resulting from the essential changes in the structure of Romania's economy, a scientific concept of

organizing production and labour could also be generalized in agriculture; it was the only one capable of leading to a reduction of the lag existing in the pre-war period not only in comparison to other European countries but also to the natural possibilities available in Romania.

In view of the fact that the practical possibilities of raising agricultural output by expanding the area under crops were rather limited — the surface that could be recovered and drawn into the agricultural circuit being small — the only way of progress in this important sector of the national economy proved to be transition to big cooperative enterprises in which agricultural operations are carried out over large surfaces with the large-scale assistance of scientific methods of work and of mechanization. In this way the main interest of the working peasantry — the continuous growth of agricultural output — could very satisfactorily be linked to the requirements for produce and raw materials of an economy in the full tide of development.

By 1962 agricultural cooperatives were set up on the entire agricultural area of Romania, with the exception of certain mountain zones in which mechanization could not be generalized on large areas.

The process of cooperativization, which signified a deep-going revolution in the life of Romania's villages, provides agriculture with a basis of large-scale socialist production, lending it conditions for its intensive all-round development. Romanian agriculture is organized in three big forms of socialist units: agricultural state enterprises (369 in 1974) which are working as independent production units; agricultural production cooperatives (4,462) which are socialist units in which the means of production are the joint property of the cooperators; the agricultural mechanization stations (743), which are socialist state units helping the agricultural production cooperatives to carry out agricultural operations in satisfactory agro-technical conditions with mechanized means.

The continuous improvement in the organization of production and labour and the promotion of the most modern methods in the management and administration of enterprises is of the greatest importance to the growth of economic efficiency. The introduction of the most recent gains of

science and technology, an essential task of planning, concerns production as such and the activities assisting production as well as the organization of production and of all the other economic activities.

The system comprising the state plan and the economic-financial levers (the financial and credit system, prices and the system of remuneration) add up to the unitary mechanism of direction of the social-economic processes by the Party and state. In the continuous improvement of this system, the Romanian state proceeds from the principle that has been tested by experience under which the forms and methods of social management and organization are not unchanging, are not established once and for all; they must be continuously perfected in step with the changes occurring in life, with the tasks imposed by the objective process of society's material and spiritual development.

The improvement of the forms and methods of the management of the national economy is therefore considered by the Romanian state as being an imperative of contemporary economic construction. The most efficient measures have been applied to intensify and develop economic democracy and rigorously apply the principles of democratic centralism and collective leadership. The creation of the committees and councils of the working people, and the strengthening of the role of the general assemblies of working people are elements stimulating the harnessing of collective thinking and action to the largest possible extent, the attraction of the biggest number of specialists into the management bodies and the intensification of democracy in economic management. The industrial production plan faithfully reflects the necessary proportion between the output of the means of production (group A) and the output of consumer goods (group B), the proportions and correlations between extraction and processing, between the energy branches and the related branches of industry.

Romanian state policy has been directed towards the priority development of the branches propelling technical and scientific progress and securing extended reproduction at the level of the national economy, that is the output of electric and thermal energy, machine-building, chemicals and metallurgy.

One element of the economic mechanism are material and moral incentives. They are a fundamental condition for recording better results, a condition for the fulfilment of the tasks written into the state plans, a veritable catalyst in all economic processes. As borne out by the measures taken in Romania, in addition to moral incentives, material incentives also have the role of creating a unity of attitude and interests of the employees of the economic units with those of the entire national economy. And, as shown by facts, this can be achieved only via the concomitent fulfilment of two conditions: the sizing of the income of the working people in correlation to the level of the economic results that are obtained, and the placing of the criterion of economic efficiency in the centre of the criteria shaping the incentive funds.

Special attention has been paid to training the cadres required by the national economy. This refers not only to the training of qualified cadres, of medium technical and higher specialists, but to the continuous action of upgrading and re-training according to the needs of the national economy and in step with the introduction of technical progress. With this aim in view, the material facilities for education have been considerably developed and education has been largely adjusted to the stringent requirements of the economy. As a result, in 1970, some 82 per cent of the industrial workers were skilled workers and the number of technicians and graduate engineers amounted to more than 125,000.

While the most recent gains of world science and technology are assimilated in Romanian production, the Romanian state also pays special attention to scientific research at home. An essential contribution in this field is made by scientific research developing in the economic sciences by extending computer techniques and progressively creating the national data processing system and promoting cybernetics and informatics in production and administration.

A special role in economic construction has been played by the policy of harnessing the country's national resources in a complex and multilateral way.

Remarkable results have also been obtained in the utilization of production capacities and labour, in the growth of labour productivity, in the reduction of the specific consumption of raw materials, materials, energy and fuel, in the better employment of plants, equipment etc. As a result, labour productivity has grown continously. In 1974 it was 132 per cent as against 1970, the average annual growth rate being 7.3 per cent.

The entire process of structural changes certainly implies the existence of a mechanism of functioning of the Romanian economy modelled in concord with historical experience and the requirements of each development stage, in the last instance deriving from the action of objective economic laws.

The principal feature of the mechanism of functioning of Romania's socialist economy resides in the fact that it is consciously established. One of the advantages of this realist policy of economic planning is that one can correct transient errors, though at the price of additional efforts, but within a short space of time.

The considerable efforts Romania is making for its economic development become strikingly evident if one examines and compares the successive national budgets and the investments for the financing of the national economy. The country now has a better logical succession of investment projects and, following the improvement of territorial planning, has obtained a better fulfilment of the investment programme as regards the economic progress of the country's less developed zones.

The complex and many-sided development of the entire economy, the introduction and deployment of the most recent gains of technical progress in all the branches of the national economy, the high-grade utilization of the natural resources and the continuous increase in the national income are reflected in the harmonious development of all the regions of the country within the framework of a policy rationally siting Romania's economic potential all over the country's territory.

This concern bears out the validity of a universally accepted belief that only the rational extension of industrial activities throughout the territory can prevent the emergence of disproportions in the country's economic and social development.

The rational industrialization of the territory is conceived in accord with regional particularities, with precise criteria

for the introduction into the general economic circuit of all natural and human resources and for the complex industrial utilization of raw materials. A logical priority was therefore attached to the effort of industrializing the economically lagging regions. In 1961—1974 the annual average growth rate of industrial production in these regions was higher than the overall industrial growth rate (in the counties of Argeș, Bacău, Ilfov, Iași and Dolj), which increases the contribution of these counties to the nation's industrial output.

The construction of new industrial projects in the undeveloped regions was accompanied by the overall expansion of the technical capacities of the country in old industrial centres; their specialization was accentuated and so was concern with performances of an international prestige.

Technical progress and efficiency are essential features of this effort for the continuous progress of the economy. There is a special emphasis on the qualitative aspect of economic development. Progress has been recorded in the modernization of the pattern of material production, the extension of modern techniques and technologies, which have led to the diversification and renewal of products as well as to higher quality.

The introduction of new machines and installations and of new equipment, together with the improvement of existing plant, has contributed to the raising of the mechanization and automation level of Romanian production, the principal means of securing technical progress in industry. Some 32 per cent of the national income has been set aside for accumulation, which places Romania among the countries having a high accumulation rate. The proportion between accumulation and consumption is set in such a way as to secure the longterm uninterrupted growth of social production and of the population's living standards.

In 1971—1975 the centralized investments financed by the state amount to about 550,000 million lei, almost the equivalent of the entire volume of investments in the period 1961—1970. An additional 70,000 million lei are invested from the income of the cooperative and state-owned units.

Some 60 per cent of total investments are set aside for the development and modernization of industry, which is rightly considered the leading branch of the economy.

Summing up a unitary concept, these provisions are subordinated to the fundamental target of a programme whose essential aim is the continuous expansion and improvement of the country's technical-material groundwork.

The fulfilment of this objective implies, in the first place, an intensive and diversified growth of the forces of production, the creation of an advanced economy, of a modern industry and agriculture, capable of meeting the uninterruptedly increasing requirements of society.

The long-term plan has taken into consideration and stipulates the general development proportions of the national economy as well as the development of each and every enterprise for the entire period and each year, its pointers comprising those referring to supplies and production as well as the distribution of goods and services. This way of detailing the plan enables the ministries, the other central bodies, the local bodies and the enterprises to take all the economic, technical, financial and organizational measures in time, so as to secure an even output, a growth in the efficiency of funds and an increase in labour productivity.

The five-year plans will continue to be in the centre of Romania's planning system because they provide the necessary perspective for the efficient solution of the basic problems and tasks of the national economy's entire development.

The establishment of an optimal relationship between the central management of the economy and the decision capacity of the economic units, which have the possibility of adopting the best measures for the solution of their own problems, makes it possible to appropriately direct the entire evolution of the economy and at the same time to grant greater powers and provide real possibilities to the production units for the growth of their creative initiative.

Romania proceeds from the idea that the essential factor of its economic development is its own effort, but that the level of this development is closely correlated to the share of its contribution to the world circuit. That is why Romania is actively participating in the numerous forms of economic, technical and scientific collaboration and cooperation on a

world-wide scale which can secure a multilateral development for this country.

The Programme of the Romanian Communist Party for the creation of the multilaterally developed socialist society and Romania's advance to communism, adopted in 1974, and the directives on the country's economic and social development in 1976 — 1980 and up to 1990 crystallize the directions of Romania's future growth; these documents outline a new prospect to the Romanian people on its way to the construction of the general welfare of the Romanian socialist nation, on its firm advance on the road of socialism and communism, in the consolidation of national independence and sovereignty and the development of Romania's collaboration with all states.

Industrialization. As regards economic development and modernization, the principal concern was focussed ever since the first years of socialist construction on the country's industrialization, the argument being that one could not conceive a rapid overall progress of the economy without building a modern industry.

In this concept, industrialization was conceived as a pivot that is essential to the general progress of Romanian society, as a condition for the development of the country's forces of production, for the large-scale promotion of technical progress throughout the economy, for an increase in labour productivity and the raising of the population's living standards.

The development of industry, and in the first place of its decisive branches (machine-building, energy, chemicals and metallurgy) obviously required special efforts on the part of the entire people, but the previsible results also had their impact on other fields, thus securing a technically superior endowment to agriculure, building, transport, to practically all economic activities in this country.

The characteristic features of Romanian industry before the second world war were: slow progress, a small share in the production of the national income, a lack in the adjustment of production patterns to the need of harnessing material and human resources, insufficient technical plant and a non-rational siting of industrial units.

The share of foreign capital in the investments of industrial companies was dominant. Foreign monopolies were hindering the progress of the national economy, directing development not towards the industrial harnessing of the natural resources but towards their sale abroad, so that Romania depended on the import of manufactured goods and therefore on foreign industries.

Immediately after liberation, the Romanian people set itself as the first aim the rapid building of a free, independent, sovereign and strong Romania in which the people would be the master of its destiny. As far back as the autumn of 1945, a scientific plan was drawn up for the construction of a modern economy.

"The progress of our country is directly linked to the progress of the country's industrialization... and the contry's industrial strength largely depends on the independence of our state," declare the documents adopted in those days. The validity of these words has been fully confirmed.

The key-stone of the entire programme of economic and social development, Romania's industrialization has created the premises for the continuous and ever larger satisfaction of the economy's requirements and enabled Romania to have a growing participation in the international division of labour; it has made it possible to coordinate the branches of economic activity and to blend industrial efforts with agricultural efforts.

Numerous new enterprises have been built, the existing units have been retooled and developed, and the economic strength of the country is continously consolidating.

An example illustrating the entire process of Romania's industrialization is the development of the iron and steel industry. In 1950 some 555,000 tons of steel were processed, in 1970 about 6,504,000 tons and in 1974 some ten million tons; in 1980 steel output will reach about 17—18 million tons. Reşiţa and Hunedoara, the two old Romanian iron-and steel centres, were developed and modernized, and a big iron-and steel combine was built at Galaţi, whose construction started in 1960. In the 'seventies a metallurgical works was built at Tîrgovişte.

Modern industrial units have appeared in places which before the war had almost no industry, for instance the

piperolling mill at Roman, the antibiotics factory at Iași and the chemical yarn and fibre combine at Săvinești. Big chemical units have been built in the town of Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej, at Govora a.o. A number of electric power stations have been commissioned, among them the thermo-power station at Doicești (county of Dîmbovița), Ovidiu II (county of Constanța), Borzești (county of Bacău), and Mintia (county of Hunedoara), and the hydro-power stations at Bicaz (county of Neamț), on the Argeș (county of Argeș), at the Iron Gates (county of Mehedinți) and on the Lotru (county of Vîlcea), reinforcing the national power grid.

The country's economic and social progress, the continuous improvement of the entire people's material and spiritual life — the supreme goal of our society — the construction of the multilaterally developed socialist society and the provision of conditions for transition to communism are inconceivable without a powerful industry.

The Romanian Communist Pary consistently focusses its economic policy on the country's socialist industrialization — the basis for the progress of the entire national economy, of culture, of the uninterrupted improvement of living standards and of stronger national independence and sovereignty. The remarkable results recorded in the growth of industrial output confirm the correctness of this policy.

Industry has accentuated its leading role in the economy, increasing its contribution to the creation of the social product and of the national income, to foreign trade and international economic cooperation. New, important production capacities have been commissioned. Romania has new combines, mills and factories equipped at the level of contemporary technology. The growth of output has been accompanied by an improvement and modernization of its pattern. The industrial branches and sub-branches of the highest technicity have developed at a higher rate.

Gross industrial output in 1974 was 1.6 times bigger than in 1970 and 5.5 times bigger than in 1960. The annual average growth rate of 13 per cent recorded in 1951—1974 is one of the highest in the world.

Gross industrial output in 1975 will be worth 582—591 thousand million lei, that is 493—502 thousand million lei more than in 1960. The equivalent of the entire output in

1960 will be obtained in 1975 in 55 days, and of the output of the year 1950 in 16 days.

The Eleventh Congress of the Romanian Communist Party spotlighted the need for the firm continuation of Romania's socialist industrialization and established the levels, rates, proportions and correlations that have to be reached in the 1976—1980 period, as well as the fundamental targets and the principal development directions of industry in the next 20—25 years.

An essential feature of the process of socialist industrialization in the forthcoming five-year period will be the continuation of high growth rates. In keeping with the Directives of the Eleventh Party Congress, industrial output in 1976—1980 will grow at an annual average rate of 11.2 per cent.

One of the main directions in the accentuation of the process of socialist industrialization in the future will be the high-grade utilization of energy and raw material resources, the introduction of modern technologies and the manufacture of new products required by the national economy.

The aim of the policy of socialist industrialization will continue to be an improvement in the territorial distribution of the forces of production, the progress of less developed localities and zones and the raising of industry to a preponderent role in all the counties of Romania. By 1980, each county will have to have a gross industrial production worth more than ten thousand million lei, and minimum output in 1990 will amount to 18—20 thousand million lei in each county.

The overall economic and social development and the continuation of the process of socialist industrialization at the rates and in the proportions set by the Party require a big volume of investments. For the period 1971—1975 it is envisaged to have a total volume of investments of 555 thousand million lei, that is the equivalent of investments in the previous eleven years. In 1976—1980 the investments programme will amount to nearly one thousand million lei and in 1981—1990 investments in the national economy will be more than twice as big as in 1971—1980, and nearly six times bigger than those made in the period 1960—1970.

The basic branches of industry — energy, metallurgy, machine-building and chemicals — will receive some 70 per cent of total industrial investments. The biggest part of the investments set aside for industrial development will be spent for the mechanization and automation of production processes and the creation of new production capacities endowed with modern technical means. Some 30—35 per cent of industrial output in 1980 will be provided by the new production capacities to be commissioned in the forthcoming five-year plan.

Gross industrial output by the end of the present decade will be about three times bigger than in 1970 and 50—52 times bigger than in 1938.

Raw Materials, Energy and Fuel.

Thanks to its new orientation, Romanian industry has recorded rapid progress based, in the first place, on the intensive utilization of natural and accumulated reserves.

However, before obtaining a complete and rational harnessing of the country's natural and labour resources, one had to have a detailed knowledge of their size and quality.

The scientific inventory of the natural resources was an essential premise, especially in correlation with long-term planning, for the efficient orientation of the principal directions of development and the determination of the appropriate pattern of investments in relation to the industrial branches and sub-branches on which the principal efforts had to be focussed. Numerous research projects identified the energy potential of each category of natural resources, enabling this country to achieve the best possible structure in the energy balance both as regards the forms of energy and the carriers of energy, so that one could secure a corresponding growth in the energy basis and the raw material basis needed by industry over a long period and with the smallest possible outlays for investments and opertion.

Within the same set of concerns, the procedure for the harnessing of thermo-power resources was modified by rapidly increasing the quantities for the production of certain forms of energy and of products of the greatest efficiency in relation to the entire national economy: electric power, coke, semi-

coke and raw materials needed by the chemical industry. The degree of processing in the crude oil industry was raised and the pattern of output was improved. The volume of 90 octane petrol, for instance, is now incomparably bigger, aromatic hydro-carbons such as benzene, toluene, xylene and ethyl benzene were produced for the first time, also fractions for oxosynthesis, fine motor fuel and gases for chemical synthesis.

A source of energy superior to coal and timber and a raw material for widely used petrochemical products, oil has played and continues to play an important role in the national economy. After the war-time disaster, output recovered within a very brief space of time, starting during the first-five year plan period, when it reached 10,555,000 tons (in 1955), considerably surpassing the pre-war peak figure (8,700,000 tons in 1936).

In 1974 crude oil output reached 14,486,000 tons.

The output of the energy industry has recorded considerable growths. In 1974, the output of electric power reached nearly 50,000 million kwh, as against only 7.7 thousand million kwh in 1960 and 35 thousand million kwh in 1970. In the first four years of the current five-year plan period, electric power output went up more than 40 per cent.

The newly installed power in the period 1960—1975 amounts to more than 10 thousand MW, of which more than half is installed during the current five-year period.

Taking into consideration the development requirements of the national economy and the world situation in the field of raw materials and energy, the Directives of the Eleventh Party Congress are paying special attention to the expansion of the national raw material basis and energy resources, to their rational harnessing and utilization.

In this context it is significant that in the 1976—1980 five-year period, investments for the development of the energy and fuel basis will exceed 125 thousand million lei, that is nearly 70 per cent of the total investments set aside for this branch in the last 25 years.

As a result, new projects will be commissioned, among them the thermo-power station at Turceni and the hydropower stations on the rivers Olt, Sebeş, Drăgan, Siret and Cerna-Motru. Moreover, work will start on a power station

fuelled by bituminous shists, on the Cernavoda hydro-power station a.o.

According to the provisions of the Directives, some 5,400—5,740 MW will be commissioned in 1976—1980, including 1700 MW in hydro-power stations and some 3,200 MW in coal-fuelled thermo-power stations using high-capacity power sets.

In 1990, more than 60 per cent of total power will be in hydro-power and coal-fuelled thermo-power stations, and more than 20 per cent in nuclear power stations.

The commissioning of the new capacities will raise electric power output in 1980 to 75—80 thousand million kwh, that is 2.1—2.3 more than in 1970, and 9.8—10.5 times more than in 1960.

Another important source of energy is the output of net coal, which by 1980 will reach some 56 million tons, that is over 26 million tons more than this year and over 35 million tons more than in 1970.

In 1980 lignite output will represent 82 per cent of total coal production, as against 73 per cent in 1975 and 62 per cent in 1970.

In addition to oil mining, Romania has also developed a first-class oilfield equipment industry of its own (producing the 30 H-200 and F-200 and F-125 drilling rigs, geological rigs a.o.). The 1 Mai works of Ploiești, the oilfield equipment works at Tîrgoviște and the Vulcan works of Bucharest are some of the modern, high-capacity units manufacturing complete sets and separate parts for the oil industry.

Machine Building. Machine-building has a decisive role in industrial dynamics and in the continuous modernization of the entire national economy. For this reason special attention is being paid to it within the framework of the policy of industrialization. The high growth rate of the machine-building industry speaks for itself. During the 1971 — 1975 period its average growth rate will amount to 18.6 per cent. Higher rates are recorded by electrical engineering, some 20 per cent, electronics, nearly 27 per cent, fine mechanics and optics, 33 per cent, machine tools, more than 33 per

cent, technological equipment, about 25 per cent and ship-building, over 19 per cent.

In 1974, the gross output of the machine-building and metal processing industry was over 50 times bigger than in 1950.

On the basis of the directions envisaged in the Party Programme, the machine-building industry will have a powerful and complex development. Special attention will be paid to this branch during the forthcoming five-year plan period. The aim is to increase its contribution to the provision of the national economy with modern technologies and to the expansion of international exchanges.

High-level technical goods will be produced — complex equipment and high-efficiency machines and installations; modern metal processing technologies will be introduced; the output of means of transport and of equipment for the mechanization of agricultural operations and the building and assembly industry will also go up at a rapid rate.

In 1976—1980 the annual average growth rate of the machine-building industry will amount to 11.5—12,5 per cent. By the end of 1980, the volume of output of the machine-building industry will be over four times bigger than in 1970 and 1.7—1.8 times bigger than in 1975; in 1990 the respective figure will be 4—5 times bigger than this year. In 1990 the output of the machine-building industry of 1975 will be obtained in 70—75 days and the output of the year 1970 in only 30—37 days.

The pattern of the machine-building industry will be improved in keeping with the long-term trends of the technical and scientific progress scored at the world level; the peak sub-branches, electronics, fine mechanics and optics, metal-cutting machine tools a.o. will record a faster progress.

In 1980 electronics, fine mechanics and optics will have a 2.2—2.5 and respectively 2.5—3 times bigger output than in 1975.

The rapid advance of the machine-building industry within the framework of socialist industry is also reflected by the fact that in 1980 machine-building will account for some 34 per cent of gross industrial output. That year, the share of the electrical engineering industry within machine-

building will amount to more than 20 per cent; computers, devices for the automation and management of production and control apparatus for economic activities will be manufactured at a rapidly increasing rate.

Iron and Steel, Metallurgy. Within the framework of industrial development and modernization, the growth of metallurgical output plays a primordial role. The production of metals is a basic pointer to the economic development level of the country.

Iron and steel has recorded such an important growth that, following the reconstruction and modernization of the combines at Hunedoara and Reşiţa, and the building of new projects especially the combine at Galaţi, the output of just over a fortnight in 1970 was the equivalent of all the steel output of 1938. In 1975, Romania is manufacturing about three times more steel than in 1965, and over 35 times more than throughout the year 1938.

The remarkable successes scored in this sector are illustrated by the evolution of per-capita steel output: this year we shall produce 475 kg. per inhabitant, as against 320 kg in 1970; in 1938, Romania's per-capita steel output amounted to 18 kg.

According to the Directives of the Eleventh Party Congress, ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy will continue to develop at a high rate. The share of alloy and special steels, of rolled goods and other special goods within total metallurgical output will increase.

During the forthcoming five-year period, the metallurgical industry will develop in such a way that by 1980 we can have an output of 17—18 million tons of steel.

In 1990, Romania's steel output will amount to 25—27 million tons, almost equalling the entire production of the 1965—1972 period. Per-capita steel output will be over 1,000 kg.

In 1980, the output of finished rolled goods will be 1.6—1.8 times bigger than in 1975 and 2.5—2.8 times bigger than in 1970; the value of rolled goods manufactured from each ton of metal in 1980 will be about 10 per cent higher than in 1975.

In 1990, Romania's output of aluminium and aluminium alloys will total 340,000—360,000 tons, as against the 200,000 tons this year and 101,000 tons produced in 1970.

The Chemical Industry, an essential component of Romania's industry thanks to its large possibilities of harnessing our natural resources, has undoubtedly recorded the highest rates of development seen in Romanian industry in recent decades. Petrochemistry is paid special attention because of the wide range of its high-technicity products and their high degree of efficiency. In 1970 output was nearly 80 times bigger than in 1938, an important contribution to this feat being made by the new plants of the petrochemical combine at Piteşti, the chemical combine at Rîmnicu Vîlcea and the man-made fibre works of Iaşi, all of which were commissioned in 1969.

The quality of Romanian-made chemicals is confirmed by the prestige they have won in 65 countries of the world, including Argentina, Belgium, Britain, Egypt, the German Democratic Republic the Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, India, Italy, Japan, the Lebanon, the Soviet Union, Turkey, Uruguay, a.o.

The efforts made by the Party and the Romanian state in this field are refleeted by the growth of the output of the chemical industry; in 1951—1974 the annual average growth rate amounted to 21 per cent, being a higher rate than the one recorded for the entire industry. During the 1971—1975 five-year period the annual average growth rate is expected to reach 19 per cent, as against the 14 per cent which will probably be the annual average growth rate for Romania's entire industry.

At present the output of Romania's chemical industry is 170 times bigger than in 1938 and about 100 times bigger than in 1950.

In 1980, the output of chemicals will be 1.6—1.8 times higher than in 1975 and 3.8—4.3 times higher than in 1970. In 1980 the entire output of 1970 will be obtained in only 85—96 days.

Playing a particular role in the high-grade harnessing of resources, petrochemistry will develop at an even higher rate. By the end of 1990 it will account for 75 per cent of

the entire chemical industry. The output of chemical yarn and fibre, plastics, tyres and technical rubber articles will be expanded and diversified.

The output of chemical fertilizers will also develop at a rapid rate. Bigger quantities of fertilizers and biostimulants will be supplied to agriculture. In 1990, the output of chemical fertilizers will be nearly three times bigger than the output of 1975.

Building Materials and Timber Processing. In 1974 the output of building materials was 23 times bigger than in 1950 and over 45 per cent bigger than in 1970, thus meeting Romanian requirements and also providing availabilities for export. Bigger output was the outcome of a better utilization of existing capacities and also of the building of new, high-capacity units having a high technical level.

In 1974, cement output totalled 11,195 thousand tons, being over ten times bigger than the production of the year 1950 and twice as big as the output of 1965.

The output of concrete prefabs was considerably developed in order to increase the degree of industrialization and the speed of building operations.

In 1974 the output of the timber-felling and processing industry was 8.7 times bigger than in 1950 and about 27 per cent higher than in 1970. The main element in this progress was a better management and higher utilization degree of timber. Considerable increases were obtained in the case of highly processed products. For instance, the output of chipboard and fibreboard in 1974 amounted to 765,000 tons, being about 25 times bigger than in 1960 and 79 per cent higher than in 1970.

During the forthcoming five-year plan period, the buliding materials and timber processing industry will develop in keeping with the requirements of the national programme of investments and the needs of the population. Cement manufacture will concentrate on the production of high-class assortments. The output of prefabs will be diversified and the manufacture of building materials from plastics will be expanded in order to obtain lightweight, cheap high-quality

constructions having a better finish and replacing metal and timber.

The output of cement in 1990 will amount to 25—28 million tons, that is about twice as much as the output this year and 3.1—3.4 times more than the production of 1970. Per-capita cement output in 1990 will reach more than 1,000 kg, as against 400 kg. in 1970.

With a view to the better utilization of timber, the development of the timber industry will be based especially on an increase in the processing degree of timber and on the more intensive utilization of timber waste in industry. In 1990 the output of the timber industry will be 1.7—1.8 times bigger than in 1975.

The value of furniture made of wood will go up from 10,000 million lei in 1975 to about 12,000—13,000 million lei in 1980. The increase of 2,000—3,000 million lei to be recorded in the 1976—1980 period will almost equal the value of the entire output obtained in 1965.

The production of particle board and fibreboard in 1980 will amount to 1.2—1.3 million tons, representing a threefold growth in comparison to the output of the year 1970.

Consumer Goods. The production of the consumer goods industry has recorded considerable increases with a view to the satisfaction of the ever growing requirements of the population and of the national economy.

In the course of the 1971—1975 five-year period, the output of the light industry is going up at an annual average rate of about 14 per cent, which means that this year will see a doubling of output as against 1970.

The manufacture of fabrics in 1974 was 4.5 times bigger than in 1950 and 42 per cent higher than in 1970. The output of footwear went up more than 8-fold as against 1950 and by 38 per cent over 1970. Significant increases were recorded, especially in recent years, in the output of knitwear and apparel.

In the period 1950—1974 the production of the food industry went up 6.7 fold, its annual average growth rate being of 8.2 per cent. During those years, the output of meat increased 4.8 times, the production of foods made of meat

more than 15 times, of edible oil 9.2 times and of sugar nearly 6 times.

In 1974 the production of meat was 57.4 per cent higher than in 1970; the respective figures for meat products were 49.1 per cent and for sugar 37 per cent.

Overall figures for the food industry during the present five-year period are expected to show a more than 50 per cent growth in output over 1970.

The Romanian state will continue to pay considerable attention to the development and modernization of the light and food industries as well as to the other branches manufacturing consumer goods.

In 1980 the light industry will have an output exceeding the 1970 figures about 2.7—2.9 times. The production of fabrics will go up from 608 million sq m in 1970 to 1,017 million sq m by the end of 1975; in 1980 the production of fabrics will reach 1,400—1,500 million sq m.

In 1980 the output of knitwear will be nearly 2.5 times bigger than it was in 1970, and by the end of the forthcoming five-year plan period, the Romanian knitwear industry will manufacture 335—350 million items. Great progress will also be recorded in the garments industry, which in 1980 will manufacture clothing worth 37,000—40,000 million lei, representing a more than three-fold growth as against 1970.

By the end of the forthcoming five-year period, the output of footwear will amount to 135—140 million pair, as against 65.8 million pair in 1970.

In the 1976—1980 five-year period, the output of the food industry will increase at an annual average rate of 6.9—7.3 per cent, and it will be directed towards the high-grade utilization of Romanian agricultural raw materials and a growth of products having a high nutrient value. The above-mentoined growth rates will lead to a considerable increase in the gross output of the food industry, which in 1980 will be 2.2 times bigger than in 1970. By 1990, Romania will produce 1,000—1,100 thousand tons of sugar as against 555 thousand tons in 1975 and 377 thousand tons in 1970.

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By implementing the objectives and tasks set to it in the documents of the Eleventh Congress of the Romanian Communist Party, Romanian industry will continue to strengthen its leading role in the economy and increase its contribution to the creation of the nation's wealth, to the development of external economic exchanges and to the satisfaction of the population's consumption requirements.

The Modernization of Agriculture.

Romania has natural conditions favouring the continous development of agricultural production. About 60.3 per cent of the country's territory represents a very fertile agricultura area. More than 66 per cent of this area are arable land, the remainder being grass land and meadows (more than 29 percent), vineyards, orchards and nurseries (5 per cent).

Within the general context of the development and modernization of Romania's economy in the period following the second world war, beside the efforts made in the direction of industrialization, concern with the modernization of agriculture naturally was a dominant feature of Romanian economic policy.

The placing of agriculture on modern foundations, the continuous increase of agricultural output through the mechanizaton of agricultural operations, chemicalization and the general utilization of the most recent gains of science, the expansion of irrigation, the upgrading of strains etc., were directly linked to the primary object of the Romanian state's overall preoccupation — the raising of the population's living standards.

In order to secure the fulfilment of this aim in all the aspects of its complex structure, the functions of modern agriculture had to be seen in very precise coordinates; the simultaneous aim was the production of the quantity of produce required by the population and industry on the one hand and of the goods needed by the state reserve and for foreign trade on the other.

As to the share of Romania's agriculture in agricultural world output, it should be pointed out that as against the about 0.35 hectares of arable land for each inhabitant of Europe, Romania has about 0.55 ha of arable land for each inhabitant.

Romania ranks 12th in the world output of wheat, 5th in maize, 16th in potatoes, 11th in sugarbeet and 3rd in the output of sunflower seeds.

Thanks to the areas available to them and their share in agricultural output, the agircultural production cooperatives now occupy the most important place in Romania's agriculture. Of Romania's total agricultural area, 60.5 per cent belong to the agricultural production cooperatives, 30.1 per cent to the state-owned agricultural sector, 0.2 per cent to the agricultural associations and 9.2 per cent of the agricultural area belong to private holdings especially fn the mountain zones. Agriculture employs more than 30,000 technicians and specialists having higher studies. More than 11,000 persous are working in agricultural research. units. Over 2,000 cadres having higher studies are employed in agricultural research.

Conditions have been created for the development of the forces of production in this sector and for its provision with high-level technical means wfth a view to the harmonious and well-proportioned development of agriculture.

The socialst relations of production in agriculture have expanded and become stronger with every passing year. At the beginning of 1974 there were 369 agricultural state enterprises and 743 agricultural mechanization stations, and the 4,462 agricultural production cooperatives had more than 3.4 million member families.

A permanent concern of the Party and state in agriculture has been the development of the technical and material groundwork. Considerable efforts were made with this aim in view, more emphasis being placed on the development of mechanization and chemicalization, the expansion of irrigation and of other soil improvement operations, on the development of orchards and vineyards, on the construction of modern hothouses and industrial-type livestock breeding units.

Following the efforts made by the state, the number of tractors in 1974 amounted to 116,000, as against 13,700 in 1950 and 107,300 in 1970. This has led to the continuous reduction of the area tilled by each tractor. Agriculture has also received new types of improved machines and equipment. For instance, in 1974 agriculture was supplied with another

5,100 self-propelled combine harvesters, that is twice as many as in 1973.

In 1974, Romania's agricultural units received more than 920,000 tons of chemical fertilizers (reckoned in active substance), as against only 74,500 tons in 1960 and 594,300 tons in 1970.

By the end of 1974, the area under irrigation totalled 1,400 thousand ha, as against only 42.5 thousand ha in 1950. In the years of the current five-year plan period, the area under irrigation has been almost doubled.

Following the development of the technical and material groundwork of agriculture, and the utilization of chemical fertilizers and scientific methods of working the land, agricultural plant and animal output has gone up continuously.

In 1974 the value of gross agricultural output exceeded 90,000 million lei, being 27 per cent higher than the annual average for 1966—1970. A growth of 31.8 per cent over the annual average recorded during the previous five-year plan period is expected for the 1971—1975 five-year period.

Plant output has recorded considerable growths in recent years. During the 1971 — 1975 period, for instance the annual cereal harvest is expected to be of more than 15 million tons as against the 10.8 million tons in 1961—1965 and 12.7 million tons over 1966—1970. Significant increases were obtained in the output of greens and vegetables, technical plants and other cultures.

The development and modernization of livestock breeding have helped to increase the number of animals. In 1974 there were 680 thousand more head of cattle than in 1971, 2,630 thousand more pigs and 480 thousand more sheep.

The growth in the number of animals and the improvement of their quality have led to considerable increases in animal output. More meat, milk, wool, eggs and other produce have been supplied to the state fund.

The policy documents of the Eleventh Congress of the Romanian Communist Party include a comprehensive programme of measures aimed at accentuating the process of modernizing and intensively expanding agriculture.

With this aim in view, some 93,000—98,000 million lei will be set aside in 1976—1980 from the state funds and

more than 14,000 million lei from the funds of the agricultural production cooperatives, which will more than double the volume of investments for agriculture in the years 1966—1970.

At the end of forthcoming five-year plan period, agriculture will have 125—130 thousand tractors, as against 107 thousand in 1970 and 116 thousand this year. Following the growth in the number of tractors, the arable land per tractor will diminish by the end of the next five-year period to 76 ha, as against 2,493 ha in 1938 and 222 ha in 1960.

In keeping with the provisions of the Party Programme and of the Directives of the Eleventh Congress of the Romanian Communist Party, more attention will be paid to the rational administration of the land, which is the principal means of production in agriculture. Important soil melioration operations will therefore be carried out in the forthcoming five-year plan period.

In the years 1976—1980, about one million hectares will be prepared for irrigation, draining operations will be carried out on 1.1 million ha, and operations to control erosion over an area of more than 800 thousand ha.

These actions will continue in the next decade. By 1990 the areas under irrigation will amount to some five million hectares, that is practically the entire area that can be irrigated. Moreover, dyking, draining and soil erosion control operations will be carried out on 65—70 per cent of the area requiring such improvements.

Another direction in the development of the technical and material groundwork of Romania's agriculture, of its modernization and intensive growth is represented by the continuous increase in the quantities of chemical fertilizers, insectofungicides, herbicides and biostimulants. The process of the chemicalization of Romanian agriculture is illustrated by the particularly high growth in the quantity of chemical fertilizers (active substance) per hectare of arable land, vineyard and orchard. Whereas in 1970 we had 57 kg of fertilizers (active substance) per hectare, there will be 250—280 kg in 1980 and some 325 kg in 1990.

Under the Party Programme and the Directives of the Eleventh Congress of the Romanian Communist Party, a basic objective in the future as well as regards the development of agriculture will be an increase in the output of cereals, and particularly of wheat and maize. Special attention will also be paid to highly-productive technical plants, to the growing of greens and vegetables, to fruit growing and viticulture.

The output of cereals in the next five-year period is expected to reach 18—20,000,000 tons per year. In 1990 cereal output should be 28—30 million tons.

In 1976—1980 the annual average harvests will amount to 8.4—9 million tons of sugarbeet, 950—1,050 thousand tons of sunflower seed, 500—520 thousand tons of soya beans, 300—320 thousand tons of hemp and 18—20 thousand tons of raw cotton.

By the end of the next decade, the cultivation of technical plants will have developed even more, following the growth in per-hectare output. By 1990, the average production of sugarbeet is expected to reach 42—45 tons per hectare as against the 23 tons at present. The harvest of sunflower seed will reach an average of 2,300—2,400 kg as against the present 1,313 kg.

Vegetable growing is of particular importance to a highly productive agriculture. Measures will therefore be taken to grow valuable and highly productive strains. Vegetable growing areas will be organized in every county to provide the population with sufficient quantities of greens and vegetables.

The quantity of vegetables grown in fields in 1976—1980 will average 4,200—4,400 thousand tons a year, which means that in the forthcoming five-year plan a growth of 45—52 per cent will be recorded in comparison with the years 1971—1975.

The output of autumn potatoes in the next five-year period will amount to 4,500—4,700 thousand tons, recording a growth of 34—40 per cent over the 1971—1975 period.

The favourable conditions and the valuable results of Romanian agriculture in viticulture and fruit-growing provide the basis for new objectives as regards the best possible satisfaction of the requirements of the population and of other needs of the national economy. The plantations of various fruit trees and the vineyards will be expanded

during the forthcoming five-year period, and special attention will be paid to highly productive strains.

The fodder basis and its quantitative and qualitative development will be the subject of particular attention. The output of fodder cereals will increase and so will the areas under lucerne, clover and other fodder plants grown especially on irrigated land, under intercalated cultures and double fodder cultures. Measures will also be taken for the most efficient utilization of meadows and grassland. Concomitantly there will be a considerable increase in the output of compound fodder, whose components will be produced in this country. The dehydration of green fodder by simple and economical processes will be expanded.

A central target of the Party's agrarian policy is the development of livestock breeding and the growth in animal output. The tasks included in the Directives for the 1976—1980 five-year plan and the guidelines for the next decade provide for the increase of the number of all animals. More attention will be paid to the growing of horned cattle and sheep in the mountain and hill zones.

The main share in the total number of animals will be held by the socialist sector of agriculture. Livestock breeding will be carried out in units differing as to species and zones, depending on local conditions. The focus will be on improved selection and reproduction, the raising of the birth rate and reduction of losses by reducing mortality.

In 1990 the number of horned cattle will be more than twice as big as in 1970 and the number of pigs will be over three times bigger.

Following the increase in the number of animals, there will be considerable production growths in meat, milk, cheese, eggs and wool. The output of live weight meat in 1976—1980 will amount to an average of 2,400—2,600 thousand tons a year, the respective figures for cow milk being 65—69 million hectolitres. In 1980 some 6,000—6,500 million eggs will be produced.

The directives for the 1976—1980 five-year plan also point to the importance of the development of sericulture and apiculture. The output of silk-worm cocoons will go up from 1,300 tons in 1975 to 5,000—5,500 tons in 1980 and

the output of honey will increase by 20—25 per cent in the years 1976—1980.

Gross annual average agricultural output in 1976—1980 will be 25—34 per cent higher than the annual average over the years 1971—1975. This once again demonstrates that agriculture, a basic branch of decisive importance in securing good supplies to the population, will continue to make its contribution to the growth of the national income, to the economic progress of the entire country.

The Development and Improvement of Transport and Telecommunications.

The development and diversification of economic activities and the growing complexity of production have made its necessary to continuously expand the means of communication, to judiciously distribute them all over the country and provide modern means of transport to satisfy ever growing requirements in the best possible conditions.

In keeping with the economic needs, further actions will be undertaken to optimize the links between production centres and consumption centres, to rationally distribute the volume of transport by categories of means of transport, improve their utilization indices, increase the degree of mechanization and automation of transport operations, expand modern transport technologies by palettization, packaging, containerization and trans-containerization with a view to the reduction of fuel and power consumption. In 1975 the total volume of general goods transport will amount to 29.9 thousand million ton/km.

Accounting for more than 52 per cent of goods transport, the railways represent the principal means of goods transport over distances of more than 50 km.

In recent years the technical and material basis of railway transport has been developed and modernized. At the end of 1974, the railway network of Romania amounted to a total of more than 11,000 km. Following the electrification of the lines Ghimeș-Ciceu-Deda and Caransebeș-Lugoj, the length of electric railways now exceeds 1,120 km. One of the actions of modernizing and developing railway transport is the introduction and expansion of Diesel and electric traction which accounts for 94 per cent of total railway

transport, placing Romania among the advanced countries in this field. In 1974 the railways commissioned 222 Diesel and electric locomotives, 2,758 goods wagons (reckoned in four-axle units), 290 passenger coaches and continued the action of modernizing and automating operational processes.

In 1980 the railways will carry 30—32 per cent more goods than in 1975 and convey 19—22 per cent more passengers. The programme for the doubling and electrification of railway lines, for electro-dynamic centralization, for the provision of automatic line blocks and the growth of traffic in the stations will be continued, parallel to the modernization of traction and of the rolling stock. By 1980, electric traction on the railway lines will account for more than 40 per cent of the total.

An important role in goods and passenger transport is played by road traffic. This type of transport over small distances, organized in keeping with requirements, accounts for 36 per cent of all passenger transport and for an important volume of goods transport. In 1974 alone, 8,240 goods vehicles and 2,632 buses were commissioned. In step with the growth in road traffic, the network of public roads has been expanded. It now comprises nearly 77,000 km, of which 16 per cent are modern roads. Modernization and the light asphalt surfacing of light-traffic roads continue. In 1974 some 290 km of modernized roads were commissioned. In 1975 some 314 km of intensive traffic roads will be modernized and light asphalt surfacing will be carried out on 700 km of non-intensive traffic roads.

In 1980 the conveyance of goods on roads will be 26—28 per cent bigger than in 1975, amounting to a volume of 8.3—8.4 thousand million ton/km, and passenger road transport will total 22.5—23.3 thousand million passenger/km.

The expansion of Romania's economic exchanges and the amplification of the country's relations with the other states of the world have made it necessary to rapidly develop river, sea and air transport.

River transport developed following the expansion of the Romanian shipbuilding industry and the more active participation of the Danube harbours in home and foregin goods traffic. In the forthcoming period, river transport will develop even more, so that in 1980 the volume of goods

carried by it will be 70—90 per cent bigger than in 1975.

Sea transport has recorded important growths in the years of socialism. In 1974, Romania's maritime fleet received three oilships of 85,250 tdw each, one ore carrier of 25,000 tdw and other ships, a total of 18, with an aggregate of 326,000 tdw, thus raising the potential of the merchant fleet to nearly one million tdw. This year is expected to see a total volume of maritime traffic of 29 thousand million ton/miles. Romania's ships are now travelling on all the seas and oceans of the world.

In keeping with the ever growing transport requirements of the national economy, Romania's maritime merchant fleet will have nearly 200 ships amounting to some three million tdw in 1980; its capacity will therefore be 2.5—2.8 times bigger than in 1975. The total volume of maritime traffic will amount to 72.5—81.2 thousand million ton/miles, thatis nearly three times more than in 1975.

There has been an important increase in the capacity and the technical facilities of air transport in recent years. The air transport fleet has received planes linking the capital city of Romania with the most important towns in this country and abroad. The new airlines include Bucharest-New York and Bucharest-Peking, on which Romanian planes are flying. Passenger air transport in 1974 was 1.8 times bigger than in 1970, totalling nearly one and a half million passengers.

In 1976—1980 internal and international air transport will go up by about 50 per cent as against the 1971—1975 five-year period. The material basis will be substantially improved. New, modern, high-speed aircraft will be commissioned. The international airports of Otopeni and Mihai Kogălniceanu will be modernized. The airport at Timișoara will be improved. All airports will be provided with radio navigation apparatus to direct aircraft and increase flight safety. Measures will be taken to expand the activities carried out by utility aircraft.

Postal and telecommunication services have also been developed and modernized continuously in the years of socialist construction. Some 79,600 lines were added to automatic telephone exchanges and in 1974 the towns of Tg. Mureș, Sinaia, Buhuși, Cisnădie and Alexandria were

linked to the inter-urban telephone network, which now comprises 30 towns.

In 1976—1980 the capacity of the automatic local telephone exchanges will increase by 30—40 per cent over the 1971—1975 level. Inter-urban automatic telephone communications will be expanded by linking up the main county centres and municipalities.

The Financial and Credit System. The principal element in the structure of the financial system is the state buget, which expresses the economic relations existing in the formation and redistribution of the centralized and decentralized funds of money resources for the extension of production, for the satisfaction of social and cultural requirements and of the other general needs of society.

The principal source of budget income are the ascending accumulations of the socialist economy from turnover tax, part of the profit of the state-owned enterprises, income tax of the cooperatives, income from the enterprises for agricultural mechanization, income from forestry exploitation and income from home and foreign trade. The taxes and fees paid by the population represent an insignificant part ot the budget (less than 5 per cent).

In addition to budget allocations, the economic enterprises and organizations use their own means (amortisation and profit) and also resort to the credit system.

Another component of the financial system, credit is a form of mobilization and redistribution, a repayable form, planned by the state, of the money temporarily available to enterprises, organizations and the population, and of the means of the state budget for the satisfaction of priority requirements of production and goods circulation. Credit also offers great possibilities of developing and strengthening financial control in the economy.

The financial and credit system is made up of the Ministry of Finance, the financial departments of the people's councils, the National Bank, the Investments Bank, the Agricultural Bank, the Foreign Trade Bank, the Savings Bank, the General

State Insurance Administration a.o. The Financial and Banking Council of the Council of Ministers was set up in 1972 for the better coordination of activities in this field. The official currency of the Socialist Republic of Romania is the *leu*.

Romania's Foreign Trade. Part and parcel of the general set of Romania's external activities, foreign trade, economic, technical and scientific cooperation are concrete expressions of the general orientation of Romania's foreign relations.

The continuous development of the national economy has created solid premises for the progressive growth of commerce with other countries. In the last twenty years, Romania's foreign trade recorded an annual average growth rate of more than 11 per cent, that is a higher rate than the average of commercial activities on a world scale (8 per cent), thus strikingly demonstrating the increase in participation of Romania's economy in the international division of Labour.

Whereas in 1938 the share of Romania's foreign trade in overall international commercial relations was lower than Romania's share of the world population, since 1967 this ratio has changed in the direction of a growing percentage in this country's participation in international exchanges.

Naturally, the far-reaching economic transformations recorded by socialist Romania in the last few decades have led not only to a significant growth as to quantity, but also to mutations as to quality in the pattern of commercial exchanges. The share of industrial machinery and equipment in the total of Romania's exports, for instance, went up from 4.2 per cent in 1950 to 22.6 per cent in 1970, the respective figures for chemicals being 1.7 per cent and 7 per cent. As the country's industrial potential developed, a large part of the raw materials which before the war had been exported as such, began to be turned into manufactured products.

In the case of an important range of Romanian goods, the foreign market has already become a significant factor in the country's industrial production: some 46 per cent of

all the tractors, 40 per cent of the furniture and 30 per cent of bearings made in Romania are sold abroad.

At the same time, however, imports continue to remain an important source of supplies of the national economy. What is essential in the present mechanism of Romania's foreign trade is the fact that in step with the modifications in the economy's overall structure, imports are developing in the direction of diminishing the share of finished products and increasing the share of raw materials and semi-finished goods; as to exports, there is a growth in the share of finished goods and a decrease is the share of raw materials and semi-finished products. However, Romania's traditional export goods also continue to be sold abroad. They include oil and oil products, cereals, timber and goods produced by the light and food industries. Moreover, goods unknown on the list of Romania's pre-war exports have also made their appearance, reflecting the scope of the new industries created in recent years (machine tools, railway wagons, locomotives, electric motors and transformers; electronic conductors, steel, zinc and lead ingots, pipes and profiles; machines and complete plant for the oil, chemical, petrochemical, metallurgical, energy, mining, building materials, timber and food industries; agricultural tractors and machines, lorries, ships and boats, various oil products; chemicals such as soda and organic dyes, detergents, paints and varnishes, fertilizers, insecticides, plastics, pulp and medical drugs; sawn timber, various types of plywood and boards; furniture and building materials).

Despite this structural diversification, about 30 per cent of the volume of machines and equipment needed for the modernization of the Romanian economy continue to be imported. Added to the output of Romania's industry, this need expresses the dynamism of an economy in which the most recent gains of Romanian and world science and technology are harnessed on a national scale in an economic system whose process of modernization will continue at a high rate in the forthcoming period as well.

This dynamism is naturally also reflected in the evolution of trade, the optimization of its structures materializing in a constant diversification of the markets of supply as well

as of outlets. Romania maintains economic links with over 130 countries; with about 60 of them economic relations proceed on the basis of governmental agreements in the industrial, agricultural and commercial fields.

Romania continues to develop its trade with the socialist countries, whose share in Romania's total volume of commercial exchanges amounted to about 55 per cent in 1972; this places them on top of the list of Romania's foreign trade partners.

In the course of the 1971 — 1975 five-year plan period, Romania's relations with the CMEA member countries, with all the socialist states, recorded an important increase and diversification. As a member of the Council of Mutual Economic Assistance, Romania is paying special attention to the complex programme for the continued intensification and improvement of collaboration and the development of the socialist economic integration of the CMEA member countries with a view to increasing the economic potential of every participating country, more rapidly expanding the forces of production in all member states, drawing closer and gradually equalizing their levels of economic development in the interest of strengthening the unity of the socialist countries. The Romanian Government holds the belief that the fulfilment of this programme, designed for a period of 15—20 years, will stimulate the building and development of the material and technical groundwork of the new system in each CMEA member country; this programme is the result of a laborious activity of consultation and of an approach to the implicit multiple problems in a constructive spirit of trust and mutual esteem, of respect for the interests of each socialist country and for the general interest of socialism.

At the same Romania develops trade relations with all the countries of the world, whatever their political and social system, on the basis of equal rights, respect for the independence and sovereignty of the partner countries, non-interference in domestic affairs and mutual economic advantage.

Romania joined GATT in 1971. This improves the conditions in which this country can have an active and equitable collaboration in world exchanges.

Romania is also active in the economic bodies of the United Nations Organization. This is borne out by its numerous initiatives which had a favourable response from the majority of the participating countries and by the adoption or the inclusion of many of the intiatives in the resolutions of these bodies. Within the framework of enlarged economic relations between countries having different social and economic systems and different levels of development, Romania actively participated in the two meetings of the United Nations Trade and Development Conference and continues to make a highly appreciated contribution to the work of the Trade and Development Council with a view to the creation of a climate favouring the expansion of international trade and the equitable participation of the developing countries in international exchanges. As a member of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, Romania participates in the work of this body and, together with other countries, initiates numerous recommendations for the elimination of restrictions and discriminations existing in international trade, for the promotion of bilateral and multilateral forms of cooperation, for the growth and diversification of the export of industrial products etc.

At a number of international conferences, Romania's delegations have put forward concrete and highly interesting proposals for measures designed to expand the forms of cooperation for the benefit of the industrialization of developing countries.

Such forms of economic cooperation are already used by Romania in its relations with some of these states. As a result, industrial projects of national importance have been built there with the assistance of Romanian experts and equipment. The conditions of payment were established on advantageous terms, payment being made with goods produced by those enterprises.

Another form of cooperation in which developing countries are interested is the training in Romania of highly specialized experts for the oil and chemical industries, in medicine etc.

Romania's foreign trade policy places great emphasis on the expansion of economic, technical and scientific cooperation with other states. This proves to be a fruitful way of

developing international economic collaboration. Romania has concluded cooperation agreements with more than 60 countries, among them Egypt, Bulgaria, Zaire, Czechoslovakia, Cuba, France, the German Democratic Republic, the Federal Republic of Germany, Iran, Italy, Yugoslavia, Britain, Poland, the Soviet Union, Hungary a.o. In recent years cooperation agreements with foreign companies have been finalized on the production of automobiles, Diesel electric locomotives, machine-tools, and drilling rigs, on the building of irrigation systems, hotels etc. The Romanian state also pays special attention to the extension of relations of cooperation in the joint construction, in other countries, of economic, industrial, agricultural and other projects, and the construction in Romania of economic projects and new production capacities, for which the foeign partners have supplied installations, plants, documentation and technical assistance, all or part of which are paid in goods made by those units or in other mutually advantageous forms. Actions of this type finalized in recent years include technical cooperation with enterprises of the German Democratic Republic in the manufacture in Romania of automatic screw cutting machines and of objectives and lenses; technical cooperation with shipyards in Poland in the building of cargoboats in Romania; technical cooperation with Renault's of France in the production in Romania of cars as well as of gear boxes for the Estafette vehicles produced in France etc. The aim of other cooperation actions was the building by the Romanian state in various countries of economic projects and production capacities for industry and other branches through the participation of the Romanian side with installations and equipment, documentation and technical assistance paid for in the products obtained or other goods established by agreement.

The new and bigger tasks of Romanian trade naturally required new structures, whose efficiency would guarantee an even operational progress in its relations with new categories of partners. Unlike in former years, when imports and exports were channelled through a limited number of central enterprises subordinated to the Ministry of Foreign Trade, export and import activities now are the direct concern of the industrial centres and other production units, of the

foreign trade institutions of groups of centres having a similar profile or foreign trade organisms directly subordinated to the industrial ministries which coordinate specific branches throughout the national economy.

This decentralization in the relations of Romania's economy with foreign partners provides increased availabilities in negotiations because the economic units whose activities enter the sphere of foreign trade now have total autonomy as regards the prospecting of foreign markets, the drawing up of their own import and export programmes, the organization of commercial representation abroad, the sale of their own products on foreign markets, and the negotiation and conclusion of contracts.

It should also be mentioned that the final decisions on matters of imports and exports, especially when big complete industrial installations such as mills and factories are involved or complex actions of cooperation, are taken at the level of the general manager of the industrial centre, or of the production unit having the status of a centre, even if the centre or unit concerned has relations with the foreign market through a specialized foreign trade institution.

This is an important detail if one wishes to understand the relationship existing in Romania's foreign trade activities between plan provisions and the ways and means required for the fulfilment of those provisions. The new general objectives are always formulated after the persuasive definition of the new structures which indicate firm availabilities for future activities on very precise economic data.

It is therefore natural for the economic organizations of Romania to be directly interested in these new conditions in the development of cooperation with foreign companies in the most diverse forms, and this applies in equal measure to cooperation in Romania and on the territory of other states.

These organizations can set up in Romania or abroad joint companies in a great variety of fields such as industry, agriculture, building, transport, trade, technical and scientific research, services, a.o.

In their activity, the joint companies set up in Romania obviously have to respect the laws of this country. The functioning of such companies is guaranteed by the Romanian

state. Romanian participation in such joint companies has to amount to at least 51 per cent, but each partner remains the owner of its contribution to the patrimony of the company over the period established by contract. Foreign banks guarantee Romania's partners the transfer abroad of their quotas of amortisation, profit and other benefits due to them, after payment of taxes and the fulfilment of other obligations established by contract.

All these concrete conditions regarding the setting up, organization and functioning of joint companies, the rights and obligations of the partners, the modalities of creating the patrimony and withdrawing the quota of participation, the criteria governing the distribution of profits and other clauses of a similar nature shall be in accordance with the agreements previously established by the partners and stipulated by contract.

The efficiency of these new ways of developing economic relations by Romania with other countries will be accentuated in the forthcoming period as well by the trend to modernize the range of export products, to raise the availability index of the types of goods being of the greatest interest on the foreign markets. The share of industrial goods in exports will continue to grow. This refers particularly to the products of the machine-building industry (machine tools, electrical engineering and complex equipment), of the chemical industry and of the consumer goods industry.

Romania ranks second in the world, after the United States, in the export of oil drilling rigs; Romanian goods have won gold medals and diplomas of honour at various international fairs and exhibitions. Having won such prestigious distinctions, Romania is exporting machines and equipment to more than 80 countries, as against only four in 1950.

Romanian-made chemicals, for instance, are sold in 72 countries, some of which, for instance the German Democratic Republic, Britain, the Federal Republic of Germany, Japan and Italy, have an old tradition in this field.

The conference dealing with foreign trade activities, organized in 1971, set new lines for the development of Romania's external commerce. The continuous improvement of the system of relations and the diversification and modernization of the institutional framework of this activity repre-

sent the principal means for the further growth of Romania's share in international trade. With the adoption of the law on foreign trade activity in 1971, Romania's foreign trade relations and economic, technical and scientific cooperation acquired a juridical setting that is appropriate to the present requirements of the national economic development and to Romania's more intensive participation in the international economic circuit. The law provides unitary overall regulations for foreign trade activities, for the country's economic, technical and scientific cooperation, for the establisment, planning and organization of such activity, and defines the main attributions of the ministries, other central bodies, industrial centres, production units, foreign trade enterprises and all factors involved in foreign trade activities with the aim of securing the sustained development and greater efficiency of Romania's external economic exchanges.

Within the frameqork of the rapid development of Romania's national economy in the years 1971—1975, Romania's foreign trade will record a substantial growth, directly proportional to the large possibilities that have been created and to the competitive quality of products manufactured by a modern and dynamic industry.

In accordance with the provisions of the current five-year plan, the volume of Romania's commercial exchanges with other countries in 1971—1975 will grow by 61—72 per cent against 1966—1970. There will also be a strong development of large and unhampered international economic, technical and scientific cooperation enabling Romania, like all the other nations, to fully benefit by the fruits of the world exchange of material assets, to take advantage of it for this country's development and progress on a reciprocal basis, to contribute to the expansion of international collaboration and understanding, to the promotion of peace in the world.

Socialist Romania focusses its external policy on the development of relations of friendship and collaboration with all the socialist countries, believing as it does that this corresponds both to the interests of the Romanian people and to the interests of the other peoples which are building the new system, to the general cause of socialism and peace.

In the years 1960—1973, Romania's exchanges with the fraternal socialist countries trebled.

As a member of CMEA, our country is making its full contribution to the activity of this body in the spirit of the complex programme for the continuous intensification and improvement of multilateral collaboration and cooperation between the member countries, for the promotion of a new type of international links based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism of full equality, principles adopted by mutual agreement.

At the same time Romania is carrying out intensive activities for the expansion of many-sided collaboration with the developing countries, with all the states standing for independent economic and social progress. In 1970—1973, the volume of socialist Romania's exchanges with the developing countries has grown sevenfold.

Consistently acting in the spirit of the principles of peaceful coexistence, Romania has continued to increase its collaboration with all the states of the world irrespective of their social system, including the developed capitalist countries.

Romania is working perseveringly for the establishment of a new economic and political order in international life, an order permitting the unhampered development of international relations on equitable and fully democratic foundations, securing the active participation of all the states in the world economic circuit in conditions of genuinely mutual advantage, as well as access to modern science and technology and the elimination of all restrictions and discriminations in inter-state relations.

Romania firmly places its external relations on the new principles of intercourse between states: fully equal rights, respect for national independence and sovereignty, non-interference in domestic affairs, mutual advantage, renunciation of force and the threat of force, respect for the sacred right of each people to decide its economic and social development in keeping with its own will without any outside interference, and the right to build a free and independent life for itself. Romania militates for the unhampered development of international collaboration and cooperation, for the free and equitable exchange of assets which must not lead,

in any shape or form, to the economic subordination of one state by another, to the creation of closed groups, to the raising of artificial barriers in the way of commerce and cooperation.

In 1974 the total volume of Romania's foreign trade was more than 18 times bigger than in 1950, exports being 19 times bigger and imports 17 times bigger. In 1971-1974 foreign trade went up 2.2 fold, and per-capita exports doubled.

The share of machinery, equipment and means of transport in Romania's exports went up from 4.2 per cent in 1950 to 24.4 per cent in 1974, reflecting the accentuation in the process of Romania's industrialization.

Qualitative changes were also recorded in the export of industrial consumer goods, whose share went up from 1.3 per cent in 1950 to 18.8 per cent in 1973.

Considerable changes have also occurred in imports. The share of industrial consumer goods went down 10.2 per cent in 1950 to 4.7 per cent in 1973, which demonstrates the capacity of our socialist industry to meet the consumption requirements of the population. By and large, imports met the requirements of the national economy as regards machines, equipment, plant and mineral raw materials as well as metal.

In recent years Romania has set up 47 joint production, banking, commercial and transport companies. They are an expression of the policy of promoting relations of collaborations with all states, regardless of social system, of intensifying this country's participation in the international division of labour.

The directives adopted by the Eleventh Congress of the Romanian Communist Party for the 1976—1980 five-year period stipulate that foreign trade has to grow and improve its structur and that international cooperation in production, technology and science has to be expanded.

The volume of foreigy trade will be 72—80 per cent bigger than in the years 1971—1975. In 1980 foreign trade will be nearly 30 times bigger than in 1950 and in 1990 about 50 times bigger.

Exports will grow at a higher rate. Their volume will increase by 75—85 per cent. The share of the goods made by the machine-building and chemical industries in exports will increase; together they will account for more than half the exports.

Imports will record a growth of 60—70 per cent as against 1971—1975 and will comprise especially raw materials, machines, plant and equipment as well as exchanges of products resulting from cooperation and specialization in production carried out with other states.

In the forthcoming years cooperation in production, in technology and science will play an increasingly important role in Romania's external economic relations. Its task will be to better correspond to the requirements for the faster growth and modernization of the forces of production, to facilitate wide access to the gains of contemporary science and advanced technology, and to make a more substantial contribution to the progress of the national economy.

Another form of intensifying inter-state collaboration, to which this country is consistently making a contribution, is the expansion of international tourism. Measures are envisaged for the modernization of tourist centres, especially of mountain and health resorts.

The Development of Science and Technical Progress.

Contemporary Romanian science has inherited an old and rich tradition of scientific thinking and creation. The example of the great scientific personalities of the past stimulates the cultivation of a lofty ethic awareness, of responsibility for the social destiny of man, of probity, of dedication to scientific truth.

In the course of time, Romanian science has contributed to the economic and social progress of the homeland and to the raising of the peoples'general level of civilization. In the cultural pioneer days of the Middle Ages the creative genius of the Romanian people materialized in the highly valuable scientific and cultural work of Nicolaus Olahus, Miron Costin, Nicolae Milescu and Dimitrie Cantemir, creative personalities who integrated Romanian culture in the spiritual circuit of Europe.

Men like Hașdeu and Xenopol, Parvan and Iorga created and illustrated the rich traditions of Romanian education. Scientists like Dr. Victor Babeș, Gheorghe Marinescu, Gri-

gore Cobălcescu, C. I. Parhon, Grigore Tocilescu, Dimitrie Gusti and many others were the founders of the schools of medicine, mathematics and sociology which won well-earned prestige. Aviation pioneers who made the first designs of flying machines, like Traian Vuia and Henri Coandă, the father of the jet plane, established the traditions of Romanian aeronautics, now in a period of full development, which are fully acknowledged in world science and technology.

The development of positive traditions, the continuous progress of science, which has now become a powerful material force of production, are decisive factors in the successful construction of the multilaterally developed socialist society in Romania. The new society is being built in the era of great scientific and technical discoveries, in the era of the impetuous contemporary scientific and technical revolution. The great construction has to be raised on the foundation of the most advanced gains of human knowledge because socialism and communism have to be the societies of the greatest productivity, of the most rational organization of social production and life, of the highest level of material and spiritual civilization.

Romania now has 150,000 scientists working in research and design, that is 30 times more than in 1938. Nearly 90,000 specialists are working in scientific research, The technical and material basis of scientific research has developed. Some 4,000 million lei, that is five times more than in the years 1961—1965, have been set aside for this sector in the 1971—1975 five-year period.

The contribution of Romanian science to the implementation of the programme for the modernization of industry and the raising of its technical and quality levels during the 1971—1975 period has led to significant results. More than 700 new industrial products have been assimilated for production and almost 150 redesigned and modernized.

About 80 per cent of all the new technologies applied or in the course of being applied have been worked out in Romania, and of the 232 types of apparatus and equipment which have been or will be provided to industrial enterprises, more than 80 per cent have been created in this country.

The Party Programme sets major objectives and tasks in this field, emphasizing the need to channel scientific research in the direction of identifying the natural resources available to this country and of turning them to better account, of discovering new energy, fuel and raw material resources and producing new man-made materials.

Scientific research will have to contribute to the large-scale introduction of technical progress in industry, agriculture and the other branches of material production, to make a bigger contribution to the growth of economic efficiency and to the welfare of the people.

In the years 1976—1980, scientific research activities and technological development will comprise some 600 objectives serving economic and social development.

New Romanian technologies, and improved technologies to be introduced in the years 1976—1980, will secure more than 80 per cent of the new and improved technologies to be incorporated in the investments planned for the forthcoming five-year period.

In 1980, some 45 per cent of the value of industrial output will be accounted for by new and improved products following the implementation of the programme for the assimilation and introduction into manufacture of new products.

The new and improved technologies to be introduced in the course of the forthcoming five-year plan period refer especially to the chemical, machine-building and metallurgical industries. In the chemical industry, new technologies will account for more than 30 per cent of the new and improved technologies of Romania's economy. They comprise technologies for the manufacture of plastics, synthetic rubber, man-made yarn and fibre, mineral fertilizers, paints and varnishes etc.

Some 12 per cent of all the new and improved technologies to be introduced in the national economy will be applied in the machine-building industry. They will help to raise the technical level in foundries, in welding operations etc.

The machine-building industry will make new types of machine tools, automation equipment, computers, new electronic components and integrated circuits for computers, that is goods securing an improvement in the technical level

of our production up to the level of world technique, its continuous modernization, the uninterrupted growth of our economic potential, competitiveness for our products on foreign markets, the fulfilment of the major tasks of industrialization in the process of the construction of the multilaterally developed socialist society.

Research will pay greater attention to social and cultural constructions, especially to questions pertaining to building equipment, materials and techniques, to the problems of shaping modern settlements combining beauty and utility and the principles of economic efficiency, as well as town and country planning provisions. These are not only administrative matters. Town and country planning, and the construction of new towns and villages also imply economic and social problems and, since they affect the country's development for many years to come, they require thorough research and a scientific approach.

As regards environmental protection, Romania will use natural resources rationally and in keeping with the requirements of maintaining and improving the quality of the environment, which involves the provision of conditions for the rehabilitation and development of renewable natural resources, the organic blending of economic and social efficiency criteria in physical planning, the prevention and control of environmental degradation and the fight against pollution with all available technical and scientific methods.

Population, Labour, the Training and Upgrading of Cadres.

The essential guideline in the elaboration of the strategy for the economic and social development of this country by the Romanian Communist Party for the forthcoming decades, for the building of the multilaterally developed socialist society is the need to achieve a powerful upsurge of the forces of production, which implies an active population policy for the sustained growth of the population and the rational utilization of labour reserves.

The socialist relations of production make it fully feasible to use all the country's resources of economic and social progress, to harness them in the interests of society as a whole and of each and every citizen. The supreme target of this policy is the full assertion of the human personality, the growth of the material and spiritual wellbeing of the entire people.

Romania's population has grown year after year. At the beginning of 1975, this country had more than 21.1 million inhabitants, that is nearly three million more than in 1960.

Romania now ranks ninth among the countries of Europe and 29th among the states of the world having a population of more than 20,000,000 inhabitants. In 1990 the population of Romania will amount to at least 25 million inhabitants and by the year 2000 this country is expected to have some 30 million inhabitants.

From the viewpoint of the age-group pattern, Romania's population has the following structure: young people below the age of 25 years account for more than 42 per cent of the population and persons up to the age of 35 years account for more than 50 per cent of the total.

Average life expectancy has increased following the permanent improvement of living and working conditions. At present the average life span is over 70 years as against 42.01 years in 1932 and 63.17 years in 1956.

Following the process of industrialization and the socialist transformation of agriculture there have also been changes in the population pattern as to social sections. The existing towns and cities developed from the economic and administrative viewpoints. New towns have appeared on the map of the country. At present Romania has 236 towns, of which 47 are muncipalities. The number of towns having more than 100,000 inhabitants each has reached 15, against three in 1950. The urban population accounts for more than 42 per cent of the total, as against 40.8 per cent in 1970 and 32.1 per cent in 1960.

In keeping with the provisions included in the Party Programme, in the forthcoming period population policy will have the aim of securing a normal growth of the population and of ensuring a good proportion of the age groups. With this aim in view, a consistent policy for the increase in births and assistance to families with several children will be pursued.

Essential changes as to quality and quantity have occurred in the evolution and pattern of the labour force in close connection with the country's economic and social development. At the end of 1974, the number of persons employed in the national economy amounted to more than ten million, recording a growth of nearly 20 per cent as against 1950.

The number of jobs has gone up uninterruptedly as a result of the development of industry, building, transport and the other branches of the national economy. In the years of the current five-year plan alone, more than 1.3 million new jobs were created.

At present the personnel of enterprises and institutions has reached more than 6 million, as against 3.2 million in 1960 and 2.1 million in 1950.

The number of persons employed by industry and the other non-agricultural branches accounts for more than 60 per cent of employed labour, whereas the number of persons employed in agriculture diminished from some 50 per cent to about 38 per cent of the total. The share of the intelligentsia, and especially of the technical intellectuals has also grown, and this section plays an increasingly important role in the country's social and economic progress.

In keeping with the provisions of the Party Programme and of the Directives, these changes will continue to gain in strength in the forthcoming five-year period. The share of industry and of the other non-agricultural branches in the labour force will increase to over 70 per cent, and by 1990 to about 85—88 per cent. Within this framework, the working people employed by industry will accede for the first time in Romanian history to a preponderant role; in 1980 they will account for nearly 40 per cent of the active population.

Following the general mechanization and modernization of agriculture, and the superior organization of labour in this branch of production, the share of the labour force in agriculture will continue to diminish. By 1980 it will account for about 28 per cent of the total, and in 1990 for 15—12 per cent.

At the same time the entire intelligentsia, and especially the technical intelligentsia, will strongly develop. Its

role in production and research, in the general progress of society will increase.

The Party Programme and the Directives for the years 1976—1980 comprise new and important objectives concerning the employment of labour, the professional training and the raising of the skill of all the working people.

Following the implementation of the comprehensive programme for investments in all the branches and sectors of activity, 1—1.2 million new jobs, 60 per cent of them in industry, will be created during the forthcoming five-year plan period. During this period, the population employed by industry will exceed the number of people working in agriculture for the first time in Romania's history. In 1980 industry and building will account for 47—48 per cent of the employed population and agriculture for 27—28 per cent.

In 1990 Romania is expected to have an active labour force of more than 11 million persons, most of whom will be working in industry and in other non-agricultural sectors.

The programme for the training of the labour force will be carried out in close connection with the diversification of the demands of the economy and social life, of technical progress, of the introduction of scientific management methods and of the needs of the overall development of man in socialist society. In the years 1976—1990, Romania will train 1.6—1.7 million skilled workers, 250,000—300,000 technicians, foremen, graduate engineers and other specialists.

The generalization of ten-year education will be concluded in the years 1976—1980; all young people will attend the courses of the first stage of high scool. After 1980 schooling at the second stage of high school will be generalized.

Some 550—600 thousand workers will be trained in the forthcoming five-year period at vocational schools, about 750—800 thousand at short-qualification courses and another 250—300 thousand in special high schools.

Special attention will be paid to the training of skilled workers for the branches securing technical progress: machine building and electronics, electrical engineering and machine tools, optics, fine mechanics, metallurgy a.o.

In 1980, higher education establishments are expected to have some 160 thousand students. The biggest growth in the number of students will be recorded in technical educa-

tion. Some 180—200 thousand persons will graduate from higher education and post-high school establishments in 1976—1980; 83 thousand of the will be graduates of higher technical education establishments.

The Growth of the National Income and of Living Standards.

The economic and social achievements scored in the years of socialist construction have made it possible to improve the material and spiritual welfare of the entire people.

According to the socialist principles of distribution, the fruits of labour, freed from exploitation, belong to those who create material and spiritual assets. They serve people and their increasingly rich life.

Day to day realities demonstrate that the general policy of the Party and state has the supreme aim of continously raising the living standards of the working people in town and country, of achieving an ever higher degree of welfare and civilization for our entire society, that all the efforts made for the high-rate development of the national economy, for the growth of the national income are subordinated to this aim.

The development of the national economy is reflected in the increase of the national income. In the years 1971—1974, this principal indicator went up at an annual average rate of 11.5 per cent, one of the most dynamic in comparison to the growth rates of other countries.

In 1975 the national income will be 81 per cent higher than in 1970, and almost 11 times bigger than in 1938. In 1980 the national income will be 54—61 per cent higher than in 1975, and 2.8—2.9 times bigger than in 1970; in comparison with 1950 it will be 16—17 times bigger. In 1990 the real per-capita income will be 3—3.5 times bigger than in 1970.

Setting out from the premise that the economic and social progress of each country and its level of civilization are decisively determined by the establishment of an optimal ratio between the consumption fund and the development fund, our Party has consistently aimed to secure a correct proportion between them which would make it possible to

have a harmonious blend of the people's present and future interests.

As a result of economic development and a substantial growth in the efficiency of activities in all sectors, in the five-year period 1976—1980 it will be possible to set aside 66—67 per cent of the national income for the consumption fund and 33—34 per cent for the development fund. In absolute figures, the value of the consumption fund in 1980 will be nearly three times bigger than in 1970, representing about 400 thousand million lei.

In step with the increase in the national income and the consumption fund, all categories of the population's income have increased.

In the years 1971—1973, the first stage in the general increase of pay was completed; small remunerations were raised to a larger extent. Following the implementation of the measures of the second stage of the general increase in the remuneration of all categories of working people, starting on August 1, 1974, minimum monthly pay went up to 1,346 lei for skilled workers and 1,140 lei for unskilled workers.

When the action of increasing remuneration is completed, the average pay throughout the economy will amount to more than 1,950 lei a month, as against 854 lei in 1960.

Real pay in the 1971—1975 five-year period will go up by 23 per cent, as against the initially envisaged 20 per cent; in comparison with the year 1950, it will be more than three times bigger.

The income of the cooperative peasants recorded important growths following the measures taken to increase the minimum guaranteed income of cooperative members in all the sectors of activity. It is envisaged that during the 1971—1975 period the income in cash and kind per active person will go up by about 32 per cent in comparison with 1971, thus exceeding initial provisions in this field as well.

The level of the peasantry's real income derived from work in agriculture will go up by 20—25 per cent in the forthcoming five years as against 1975.

In addition to a rise in remuneration for work, the population benefits to an ever higher degree by income from the social consumption funds. The average per capita

figures on the evolution of social and cultural expenditure financed from the state budget are illustrative.

In 1976—1980 state expenditure for the financing of social and cultural actions will go up by more than 50 per cent in comparison with the years 1971—1975.

The Romanian state has also paid special attention to the improvement of the life of pensioners. In the course of the 1971—1975 period this has materialized in a pension increase of 20 per cent.

State allowances for children have gone up by about 47 per cent, the expenditure for this purpose being more than 3,000 million lei higher than initially planned for 1971—1974. The scholarships paid to students and pupils were also increased.

The growth in the income of the population was accompanied by an increase in the output of consumer goods. The stock of commodities for the population became more diversified and supplies have improved. In 1975 the volume of sales will be 50 per cent bigger than in 1970, and about eleven times bigger than in 1950.

During the 1976—1980 five-year period it is expected that the volume of goods sold to the population will go up by 40—45 per cent as against 1975, being twice as big as in 1970.

Per capita consumption in the years 1976—1990 is expected to go up 50—60 per cent for meat, 80—90 per cent for fish, 35—40 per cent for milk and 55—70 per cent for fruit.

The growing demand of the population for clothing and footwear will be met by raising per capita consumption 70—90 per cent for fabrics, including garments, and 45—55 per cent for footwear.

The population's requirements for durables will be met to an ever larger degree. The output of wireless receivers, TV sets, refrigerators and washing-machines in 1990 will be 2—2.2 times bigger than in 1975 and the output of cars 3.5—4 times bigger.

An important factor in raising the living standards of the population is the improvement of housing conditions. Our Party and state are paying special attention to housing construction, for which ever bigger funds were set aside

year after year. In the years 1966—1970 nearly 345 thousand flats were built with money and assistance provided by the state. In the years 1971—1974 the figure amounted to 395.7 thousand, and in 1975 some 133.3 thousand flats are to be built. More than 50 per cent of Romania's population is now living in dwellings built in the years of socialist construction.

Some 850 thousand flats will be built in the fiveyear period 1976—1980, and the state will provide material for the building of 250—300 thousand homes by the rural population. Over the same period the number of places in hostels for bachelors will go up by more than 200 thousand, reaching 500 thousand in 1980, which will cover practically all requirements.

By 1990 some 2,500—3,000 thousand homes will be built of which 2,000 thousand will be constructed in the towns. The ratio of flats having 3—4 rooms each as well as the living space per flat will go up. As a result, the housing problem will be solved by and large.

Housing construction will be accompanied by the building of social and cultural projects. New parks of rest and sports grounds will be laid out, the network of cultural and artistic establishments will be expanded and the technical facilities of existing units will be improved.

The high-rate development of the entire national economy and the judicious siting of the forces of production throughout the country's territory have led to the integration of numerous localities in the economic circuit. As a result, certain villages were transformed into urban centres, many towns have radically changed their aspect and the state has made considerable financial efforts to provide localities with new facilities.

In the years 1950—1974, the number of localities with running water has grown nearly four-fold and the length of the water distribution network has trebbled. The number of localities having gas distribution networks has also grown. There are more than 400 such localities and the length of the network has increased more than sevenfold.

Public transport in the towns has made considerable progress. In 1974 the length of the routes served by trams,

buses and trolley-buses totalled over 14,000 km, as against some 750 km in 1950.

An important contribution to the raising of the people's living standards and level of civilization has been made by electrification. By the end of 1974, about 12,000 villages were electrified as against only 522 which had electric light in 1944.

An important role within the programme for the raising of the living standards is played by public health protection. The conditions in which medical assistance is given and preventive actions are carried out have improved year after year. In 1974 Romania had 186,220 beds in medical units, that is 8.9 beds for every one thousand inhabitants. In comparison with the year 1950, the number of beds per thousand inhabitants went up more than twice. In 1974 we had some 33,000 physicians, that is one doctor for every 635 inhabitants as against one for every 1,895 inhabitants in 1938.

In 1973, more than 1,200 thousand persons spent their vacations and had medical treatment in health-resorts, that is six times more than in 1950. The number of children who spent their holidays in camps went up from 65,000 in 1950 to 260,000 in 1973.

Considerable funds will be set aside in the years 1976—1980 for the development of the material facilities of public health protection. Hospitals and university clinic complexes, polyclinics, preventoriums and maternities will be built. More than 23,400 beds will be commissioned in 45 new hospitals. Facilities in the existing units will be improved and measures will be taken to make medical assistance more efficient throughout Romania.

In the forthcoming years, public health protection policy will focus on the development of preventive medicine, on the raising of the entire population's level of sanitary knowledge and the provision of means for the protection and rehabilitation of the working people's health. Measures will be taken to improve working and living conditions with a view to maintaining and strengthening public health.

Special attention will be paid to measures for the protection of mother and child. The number of nurseries and

kindergartens will be increased. In the five years 1976—1980 new units will be built for nurseries, totalling 100,000 places. The number of places in the nurseries will reach nearly 200,000 in 1980. This will be of considerable assistance to families having several children.

Some 3,900 million lei were spent from the state budget during the first four years of the current five-year period for cultural and artistic activities. Some 934.7 million lei will be spent for the purpose in 1975.

In 1974, Romania had 145 theatres and musical establishments as well as 2,000 cinemas.

The work of cultural and artistic establishments has developed considerably throughout this country. As against 38 drama and puppet theatres in 1950, attended by 3,127 thousand spectators, Romania had 67 such establishments in 1974 attended by 5,669 thousand spectators.

Numerous theatrical companies received new theatres and other such buildings were completely reconstructed in keeping with modern requirements. In the last two years the new buildings of the National Theatre in Bucharest, the National Theatre of Craiova and the State Theatre of Tg. Mureş were inaugurated.

Film production has made progress. In 1974 Romania produced 22 full-length feature films, 30 cartoons and a great number of documentaries. More than 182 million spectators went to cinemas in 1974.

More than 20,000 libraries, including those of higher educational establishments, documentary, school and public libraries, having some 130 million volumes and numerous collections of newspapers and reviews covering a wide range of fields, are available to various categories of readers.

Publishing has recorded big increases. In the years 1969—1975 Romania printed 11,359 volumes, of which 1,088 were edited in the languages of the coinhabiting nationalities, in editions totalling nearly 161 million copies.

Numerous dailies, reviews and other periodicals are also published. Ther annual average circulation amounts to more than 1,400 million copies.

A significant contribution to the raising of the population's cultural level is made by radio and television. In 1950, Romania had seven radio transmiters. Their number

went up to 46 in 1970 and to 62 in 1974. This has contributed to better reception and an increase in the range of broadcasts. Since 1968 Romanian television has two channels. In 1974 there were 20 main transmiters and 174 auxiliary transmiters, as against 17 main transmiters and 66 auxiliary stations in 1969. The number of TV subscribers is more than one million higher than in 1969, and 4.8 times bigger than in 1965.

Impressive trade union houses of culture were commissioned in recent years at Oradea, Sibiu, Pitești, Suceava, Roman, the town of Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej, Vaslui, Buzău, Ploiești, Galați, Bîrlad, a.o. Cultural activity is carried out in numerous enterprises in clubs and special halls. We have a total of 7,985 cultural clubs, 243 houses of culture and 236 clubs.

Romania's contemporary cultural landscape also comprises 357 museums, whose activities contribute to the progress of socialist culture and education.

CULTURE

Literature. Few spiritual structures bear such pregnant original marks of their native place and creators as does Romanian literature. Geography is reflected in history and both are present in literature, in folklore as well as in the work of our writers.

The physical setting and historical circumstances have intensified folk creation for thousands of years. Handed down from father to son over the centuries it was continously enriched, crystallizing in the *Miorița* (Ewe Lamb) of anonymous authors and in the work of Eminescu, Coșbuc, Sadoveanu and Arghezi.

The first Romanian literary works appeared in Slavonic. The first endeavours of shaping a literary Romanian language based on the spoken language of the time appeared at the end of the 15th and beginning of the 16th centuries.

In the year 1521, when Neagoe Basarab, the ruler of Wallachia, completed his work in Slavonic *The Teachings for Teodosie*, thereby raising contemporary Romanian literature to the highest peaks, Neacșu signed the first document in Romanian we know under the name of "Neacșu's Letter" which he sent to the mayor or Brașov, Johannes Benkner, at Cîmpulung, the first capital of Wallachia.

The first printed biblical texts also date from the 16th century. They contributed to the assertion of a unitary literary language. This is especially true of those printed by Deacon Coresi. In the 17th and 18th centuries the printing shops in the Romanian principalities were flourishing. In addition to printing many volumes of religious literature in Slavonic, which was the language of the church and of

the chanceries of the Middle Ages, and in Romanian, they also turned out a number of localized versions of European and Oriental secular literature, the so-called folk books of fables and examples. The most pronounced progress at that time was recorded by historical writings. The chroniclers Miron Costin (1633—1691), Ion Neculce (1672—1745), Constantin Cantacuzino (1650—1715), the scholar Dimitrie Cantemir and the learned illuminists of Transylvania Gheorghe Şincai (1745—1816), Petru Maior (1760—1821) and Ioan Budai Deleanu (1763—1820) demonstrated in their works the idea of the Latin character and the people's unity of the three Romanian lands with the assistance of historical, philological and ideological arguments. An era of national rebirth and cultural progress, animated by prestigious personalities such as the poet Ion Heliade Rădulescu (1802—1872), the historians Mihail Kogălniceanu (1817—1891) and Nicolae Bălcescu (1819—1852), the first half of the 19th century saw the emergence and diversification of Romanian literature under the aegis of classicism and romanticism. This was a period in which close contacts were established with western literature and culture, the time when ancient Romanian folklore was rediscovered (the collection of folk poems Vasile Alecsandri made in 1852—1853 was disseminated abroad in French and English translations). Of a great originality in the cultural space of the Carpathians and Balkans, of a great wealth and thematic diversity materialized in remarkable mythological ballads (Miorița, Master Builder Manole) and doinas, Romanian folklore has permanently influenced cultured literature.

The birth of national awareness and of a political ideology whose essence was revolutionary characterized the 1848 period and lent Romanian literary creation specific features such as demophilism, a visionary character, a cult of heroes, patriotism and folklore inspiration, features which have been renewed constantly throughout the evolution of Romanian literature. The dominant aesthetic current was romanticism. Under its rule there developed the creative work of the poet, prose write and playwright Vasile Alecsandri (1821—1890), of the visionary Alecu Russo (1819—1859), of the prose-writer Costache Negruzzi (1808—1868), the creator of the historical Romanian long short story, and later of

Nicolae Filimon (1819—1868), the founder of the social novel. In the second half of the 19th century, the Junimea Association, led by the critic and philosopher Titu Maiorescu (1840—1917), gathered around his review *Convorbiri Literare* great writers of the century who became classics of Romanian literature: the poet Mihai Eminescu (1850—1889), the playwright I. L. Caragiale (1852—1912), and the novelist Ioan Slavici (1848—1925). At that time, C. Dobrogeanu Gherea (1855—1920), laid the foundations of sociological literary criticism in the review *Contemporanul*, Alexandru Macedonski (1854—1920), experimented with symbolism which found its highest expression in the poems of George Bacovia (1881—1957), Barbu Ştefănescu Delavrancea (1858—1917) asserted himself as a playwright and the poets George Coşbuc (1866—1918) and Octavian Goga (1881—1938) voiced the social and national claims of the Romanians of Transylvania. In the interwar period, the critic Eugen Lovinescu (1881—1943) advocated a renewal and synchronization of modern culture through the group called Zburătorul. At that time the main avantgarde groups appeared and the period registered the début of personalities who were to become famous throughout Europe such as the Dadaist Tristan Tzara (1896—1963), the existentialist poet and essayist B. Fundoianu (Benjamin Fondane, 1899—1944). Poetry was represented by brilliant writers such as Tudor Arghezi (1880—1967), Lucian Blaga (1895—1961), Ion Barbu (1895—1961), Adrian Maniu (1891—1968), Ion Vinea (1895—1966), Vasile Voiculescu (1884—1963), and Alexandru Philippide (b. 1900). Prose recorded the success of the social novel with Liviu Rebreanu (1895—1944), of the historical novel with Mihail Sadoveanu (1880—1961), of the analytical city novel with Hortensia Papadat-Bengescu (1876—1955), Camil Petrescu (1894—1957), Mateiu Caragiale (1885—1936), George Călinescu (1899—1965), and Cezar Petrescu (1892—1961). Remarkable generations of literary critics and historians included Eugen Lovinescu, George Călinescu, Tudor Vianu (1897—1964), Şerban Cioculescu (b. 1902), Vladimir Streinu (1902—1970) and the leading playwrights included Camil Petrescu, Mihail Sebastian (1907—1945), Victor Eftimiu (1889—1971) a.o.

The literature of recent decades is characterized by the continuation at a higher level and under the sign of socialist

humanism of the militant and progressive traditions of literature in the 19th century and the first half of the 20th century. It is dominated by personalities who asserted themselves between the two world wars and by the representatives of the new generations, Mihai Beniuc (1907), Nina Cassian (1924), Marin Sorescu (1936), A. E. Baconski (1925), Ion Brad (1929), Nichita Stănescu (1933), Eugen Jebeleanu (1911), Ion Alexandru (1942), Şt. Augustin Doinaş (1922), Adrian Păunescu (1943), in poetry; Zaharia Stancu (1902—1975), Geo Bogza (1908), Marin Preda (1922), Eugen Barbu (1924), Fănuş Neagu (1932), D. R. Popescu (1935), Alexandru Ivasiuc (1933) in prose, Aurel Baranga (1913), Horia Lovinescu (1917), Paul Everac (1924), Alexandru Mirodan (1927) in the theatre; Alexandru Dima (1905), Ovid S. Crohmălniceanu (1921), Adrian Marino (1921), Alexandru Piru, Zoe Dumitrescu Buşulenga (1920), Constantin Ciopraga (1916), N. Balotă (1925), Dumitru Micu (1928) Tamás Deák (1928), Mircea Zaciu (1922), Ion Dodu Bălan (1929), Sándor Huszar (1929), Adolf Hauser (1929) and N. Manolescu (1939) in literary criticism and history.

The Arts. Valuable artistic vestiges, such as pottery of the Cucuteni culture, from the Neolithic are to be found on the territory of Romania. An important stage in the development of the arts is represented by the Geto-Dacian civilization (third century B.C. — 2nd century A.D.) which materialized especially in fortresses and sanctuaries (Sarmisegetuza). Although representing manifestations of provincial imperial art, the vestiges of the Greek cities on the shore of the Black Sea (Histria, Tomi and Callatis), and of numerous temples, amphitheatres, statues and mosaics from the period of Roman domination in Dacia are of the greatest interest.

Up to the 13th century, local art developed especially at the level of popular artistic creation, which continues to coexist with multiple forms of cultured art. Thanks to its ancient tradition, its great variety of forms and high artistic value and because it maintains its original and unitary character, Romanian folk art, like all folk culture, occupies a special place within the framework of European folk culture, being one of its most attractive and complex examples.

The architecture of the dwellings is characterized by harmonious proportions and the integration of the home in the natural environment. Romania's timber churches belong to the most remarkable achievements of European timber architecture. The folk costume arouses particular interest because of its beauty and variety and its almost perfect identity with the Dacian costume. The variety of motifs in Romanian fabrics is a synthesis of cultural influences which succeeded one another for many centuries. Pottery, dating from prehistoric time, developed under the influence of neighbouring cultures. Black, red or enamelled, it is distinguished by elegant and graceful simple forms and discreet decorations.

Woodcraft is exemplified by householdware and wood sculpture. The dominant feature of folklore expression is stylization. In folk paintings the most important creations are icons on wood and especially icons on glass, which are remarkable for their colourful exhuberance.

The formation of the feudal states led to the appearance of specific forms of art. In Transylvania, next to the monuments having Byzantine and Gothic elements (the church at Densuş, (13th century), Strei (14th century) and Gurasada (14th century), there are buildings in the Romanic style (the cathedral at Alba Iulia), and in the Gothic style, at Braşov the Black Church and in Cluj-Napoca the St. Michael Church. The Renaissance is especially visible in the work of the artisans, and the German Baroque in architecture (Sibiu and Cluj-Napoca).

Typical of Wallachia are the adjustments to the Byzantine types of architecture (the Prince's church at Curtea de Argeş (14th century) a.o. The Wallachian style appeared in the 16th century (Dealul Monastry, Mihai Vodă of Bucharest etc.) illustrated in the 17th century by the constructions of Matei Basarab (the monasteries at Strehaia, Brebu, Cornetu). The 18th century, which was the period of Brîncoveanu, secularized the style of building and achieved a synthesis between the Renaissance, Wallachian and Byzantine elements (the palaces at Mogoşoaia and Potlogi, the monasteries at Horez and Văcăreşti).

In Moldova there was from the very start a blending of the Byzantine and Gothic structures (the St. Nicholas Church

of Rădăuți, 14th century), a feature also to be found in the following centuries. The 15th century marked the emergence of the Moldovian style, illustrated by the foundations of Ștefan cel Mare (the churches at Pătrăuți, Voroneț and Bălinești, Neamț Monastery, the fortresses of Suceava and Neamț) and the great buildings of the 16th century (the monasteries at Moldovița and Sucevița). The most original creation of Moldovian art in the 16th century were the external mural paintings which covered all the walls and are remarkable for their very lively colours and the subject-matter of their drawings. In addition to their great artistic value, these monuments also have the distinction of being almost unique in Europe.

In the 15th and 16th centuries, feudal art developed along the line of Byzantine traditions, and miniatures and embroideries were flourishing. In the 17th century magnificent monuments were raised, representing a syncretism of Oriental motifs (Trei Ierarchi Church) or of Renaissance Baroque (Golia, Dragomirna).

Neo-classicism appeared in the early 19th century in Wallachia and Moldova (the Ghica Palace at Tei, Bucharest, and Biserica Frumoasă at Iași).

The features of modern Romanian art began to assert themselves in the mid-19th century especially through romantic and academic paintings. Portraits and historical compositions characterized the work of one of the founders of higher art schooling, Theodor Aman (1831—1891). Nicolae Grigorescu (1838—1907), trained at the school of Barbizon, a man of great sensitivity towards nature and especially a painter of village life, facilitated the penetration of impressionism in Romanian art. Ion Andreescu (1850—1882), a profound, grave and emotional artist, raised Romanian painting to a high level.

In architecture, Ion Mincu (1852—1912), initiated a new national current inspired from traditional Romanian architecture. Early 20th-century painting was dominated by Ștefan Luchian (1868—1916) whose original chromatic synthesis of great brilliancy and concentration on essentials made an important contribution to later developments. In the years between the two world wars, the fine arts, and especially graphics, were characterized, on the one hand, by

a democratic trend of protest, and on the other, in painting, by various styles in which colour was dominant. Gheorghe Petrașcu (1872—1949) was a master of precious art, Theodor Pallady (1871—1956), had a perfect balance in composition and chromatic refinements, Nicolae Tonitza (1886—1940), a ruthless social critic in the arts, was remarkable for his warm pictorial exotism, Francisc Sirato (1877—1953) experimented with the incorporation of light into colour by dissolving colours in light; Iosif Iser (1881—1958) was a dramatist of expression, Jean Al. Steriade (1880—1957) a delicate humourist, and Dumitru Ghiață (1888—1972) a vigorous and simple chromatist rooted in folk tradition.

Dimitrie Paciurea (1873—1932) gave 20th-century sculpture a great élan and fantastic, symbolist vision. Constantin Brancuși (1876—1952), the man who reshaped modern contemporary sculpture, aspired to pure, essential form, to the symbol. His contemporaries were Ion Jalea (1887) who asserted himself through harmony and balance, Cornel Medrea (1889—1964) who was remarkable for his vigour, and Oscar Hahn (1891) who distinguished himself by decorative stylization. Achievements in the spirit of Ion Mincu's national school of architecture continued with Petre Antonescu (1873—1965), Cristofor Cerchez (1872—1955), and the promotion of functional architecture by Horia Creangă (1892—1943) and Duiliu Marcu (1895—1965).

After the second world war, Romanian painting developed by turning to account the experience of the predecessors who had served the new humanistic ideals. Next to the old masters, we have Corneliu Baba (1906), grave and sober, Alexandru Ciucurencu (1903), a refined and subtle colourist, and Ion Țuculescu (1910—1962) who, having adopted the structures of the folk style, advanced to expressionism and abstraction. The contemporary Romanian school of painting has a great variety of means of expression. Its leading personalities include Brăduț Covaliu (1924), Ion Pacca (1924), Ion Bitzan (1924), Virgil Almășan (1926) a.o.

In sculpture, Gheorghe Anghel (1904—1966) asserted himself with his profound spirituality, Gheza Vida (1913) with his vigorous expressionism, Ion Irimescu (1903) by harmony and a decorative style. Younger representatives are George Apostu (1934) and Ovidiu Maitec (1924). Engravings and

graphics, posters and illustrations, whose development has been most remarkable since the war, have asserted themselves with Vasile Kazan (1913), Florica Cordescu Jebeleanu (1914—1966), Ligia Macovei (1916), Octav Grigorescu (1933), a.o.

Architecture and town planning had a great development in step with the considerable building activity proceeding in this country. The townscape is changing from every point of view. In the modern spirit which seeks to bring out the traditional features, a number of architects have asserted themselves including Horia Maicu (1905), Octav Doicescu (1905), Tiberiu Ricci (1913), Nicolae Porumbescu (1919) and Cezar Lăzărescu (1923), who have made a notable contribution to the designing and construction of important buildings and social, cultural, industrial and housing ensembles.

Music. Alongside the folklore treasure which represents a permanence of Romanian musical culture, in the 16th — 19th century there developed a professional art of the Byzantine type in the monasteries. Contact with western musical culture in the 19th century helped not only in the development of musical life in general, but also in the assertion of a Romanian school of composition in which all the genres have the stylistic attributes of a national school. For all those composers, as for the contemporaries, folklore was the main source of their musical language.

George Enescu (1881—1955) is the best known Romanian composer. With his highly personal creation, Enescu raised Romanian music to the level of universal assertion. Next to Enescu, a great number of other composers developed their activities, Mihail Jora (1891—1971), Sabin Drăgoi (1894—1968), Paul Constantinescu (1909—1963), Marţian Negrea (1893), Mihail Andricu (1914), Zeno Vancea (1900), Ion Dumitrescu (1913), Gheorghe Dumitrescu (1914), who completed the principles of the national school and created a cultural language linked to folklore. The creation of these men and of younger composers such as Thedor Grigoriu (1926), Pascal Bentoiu (1927), Ştefan Niculescu (1927), Anatol Vieru (1927), Tiberiu Olah (1928), Wilhelm Berger (1929) and Aurel Stroe (1932) characterizes the present

musical climate in Romania which combines the assets of tradition with the most advanced gains of contemporary music.

To complete the Romanian musical landscape, one has to mention performing artists such as pianists Dinu Lipati (1917—1950), and Valentin Gheorghiu (1928), violonist Ion Voicu (1925), tenor Ludovic Spiess (1938), baritons Nicolae Herlea (1927) and Dan Iordăchescu (1930), the folklore singer Maria Tănase (1913—1963), panpipe player Gheorghe Zamfir (1941) conductors George Georgescu (1887—1970), Sergiu Celibidache (1912), Iosif Conta (1924), Mircea Basarab (1921) and the choir conductor Marin Constantin (1925).

The Theatre. A complex phenomenon and typical for the collective feeling of creation with the Romanians, the cultured Romanian theatre only became an integrated form at the end of the 18th century and the first decades of the 19th century. This was a period of preoccupation with the principles of the struggle for the assertion of national values, a period of an enthusiastic cultural upsurge, when the theatre became an important factor in the assertion and development of the Romanian language and in the promotion of the ideas of freedom.

In recent decades, theatrical life advances under the sign of institutional stability and the promotion of a rich, diverse classical and contemporary repertoire of a high artistic level drawn from Romanian and foreign literature.

The number of theatres and musical establishments has grown both in Bucharest and in the counties. In 1970 there were 143, all of them receiving subventions from the state, as against 18 in 1938, most of which were private companies. Numerous halls have been built, there are theatres playing in the languages of the co-inhabiting nationalities (Hungarian, German and Yiddish) and dozens of puppet theatres. The number of playgoers exceeds 12 million persons a year.

The contemporary development of the Romanian theatre on the essential coordinates of its foundations, strikingly confirmed in its confrontation with European currents, and its artistic quality have placed it among the most valuable

components of Romanian culture, and its authority is generally recognized.

The discerning foreign visitor can readily see in Bucharest and in the other cultural centres of this country to what extent theatrical people in Romania have become genuine creative artists, liberated from the obsession of incertitude. On the one hand this is due to the fact that all Romanian theatres are protected by the state from the economic and financial viewpoints and, on the other, they have full freedom as to artistic initiatives so that not only leading actors, but also beginners who have just graduated from the theatre institutes of Bucharest and Tg. Mureş, all the servants of Thalia, are guaranteed stable conditions for their creative work.

It is only in such truly professional, artistic and especially civic conditions that a repertoire policy could be achieved in the contemporary Romanian theatre in which the criterion of selection, unaffected by material considerations, could serve the lofty humanistic spirit which characterizes the entire system of thinking and action in Romania today. Each and every theatrical season in recent years demonstrates this concern of Romania's actors and directors to promote the highest ideas of humanism. In the last season, for instance, works by the classics and modern playwrights from practically all over the world were staged in addition to Romanian classical and contemporary plays. Their styles were different, but their value and message were consistent.

The original, daring and complex re-assessment of the treasure store of the world's classics is one of the most consistent contributions the Romanian theatre is making to enrich the discussion of ideas with which the contemporary world theatre concerns itself. Romanian participation in the theatrical seasons of Paris staged within the framework of the Theatre of the Nations, in the festivals of Nancy, in the international theatre meetings organized in Florence and Rome, as well as the numerous tours Romanian companies have made in recent decades have highlighted the manifold valencies of a theatrical school enjoying a well-deserved prestige.

The stagecraft of Romanian directors is internationally acknowledged. Numerous Romanian directors have been invited to produce plays in other countries. Liviu Ciulei went to Berlin and Düsseldorf, Sorana Coroamă to Weimar, Lucian Giurchescu to Helsinki and Tel-Aviv, Andrei Şerban to the United States, Radu Penciulescu to Paris, David Esrig to Köln, Dinu Cernescu to Prague and Copenhagen etc. In 1971, People's Artist Radu Beligan was elected President of the Executive Committee of the International Theatre Institute.

TOURISM AND SPORTS

Romania's hospitable landscape offers excellent conditions for domestic and international travel. The promotion of a policy of collaboration with all the countries of the world and spectacular social and economic achievements have also contributed to the growth of Romania's prestige and an increase in the interest of foreign tourists.

Romania is accessible from all parts of Europe by all means of transport. The airlines of Tarom, the wide-flung railway network, the maritime harbour of Constanța on the Black Sea and the Danube harbours of Galați, Giurgiu and Hîrșova as well as the more than 11,000 km of modernized roads offer tourists good travel conditions in Romania.

In recent years the number of tourists visiting Romania has grown. Coming from all parts of the world, from the Soviet Union and America, from Scandinavia and France, visitors can spend a true holiday in Romania. In 1974, Romania was visited by nearly 3.9 million foreign tourists. The number of Romanian tourists has grown from 3 million in 1965 to some 6 million in 1971. Thanks to the many new and varigated facilities, hiking has expanded considerably in recent years and now comprises the entire territory of this country. The attractions range from picturesque nature to historical vestiges and medical treatment, each resort and region possessing geographical and cultural treasures which people want to explore. Tourist complexes matching the generosity of nature have been built in the mountains, the Delta of the Danube and on the shore of the Black Sea. The Romanian coast of the Black Sea, over

240 km long, is unique in the world. The huge beach, situated on the same parallel as the Côte d'Azur, but facing east, is warmed by the sun 10—11 hours a day during the summer season. The fine resorts of Mamaia, Eforie, Mangalia, Costinești, Neptun, Jupiter, Venus, Saturn a.o. have comfortable hotels, attractive villas, picturesque camping sites, restaurants, sportsgrounds, sweet water lakes ideal for water sports, bars and clubs offering tourists a pleasant vacation and good entertainment. The seaside can now accommodate more than 100,000 persons at a time.

It should be noted that some of the seaside resorts also offer visitors many possibilities of medical treatment. Eforie, for instance, has modern installations for treatment with the sapropelic mud of lake Techirghiol and offers warm baths and mud packing which are efficient in the treatment of nervous, rheumatic, skin and other diseases. Mangalia has numerous sulphurous water sources and mud, both of which are used for medical treatment.

The picturesque Romanian Carpathians abound in localities which are ideal for winter sports, hiking and climbing. Numerous health resorts in that zone rival similar stations in France, Austria, Switzerland and Yugoslavia as to altitude, the direction of the mountain side and climate, have a wide range of curative natural factors such as mineral and thermal waters, lakes as well as modern facilities for treatment. Băile Herculane, known as a spa ever since the Roman occupation, Călimănești and Căciulata in the wonderful valley of the Olt, Slănicul Moldovei, Vatra Dornei, Sovata and Borsec are only some of the more than 150 spas and health resorts of Romania. All of them have been developed and modernized. Modern hotels have also been built in the mountains at Brașov, Predeal, Sinaia and Piatra Neamț. There are comfortable sports chalets at Cota 1400 near Sinaia, at Poiana Brașov, Negoiul, Bălea, Lacul Roșu etc. Comfortable camping sites have been laid out at Tușnad, Bicaz, Dumbrava Sibiului, Izvorul Rece, Vatra Dornei etc. Numerous ski tracks have been arranged and cableways are functioning in all popular mountain resorts.

Several towns and cities attract visitors with their monuments and other interesting sights. Bucharest, the capital city of the Socialist Republic of Romania, whose documentary

existence goes back to more than 500 years, is a modern city having numerous pre-feudal and feudal vestiges. The principal Romanian museums and cultural establishments are located there, as well as important edifices. Entertainment possibilities are wide and varied. One of the oldest architectural monuments in Bucharest is the Curtea Veche (Old Court) Church built in the mid-16th century. The portal of the church is a highly valuable artistic work of the stonecutters of the time of Brîncoveanu.

Another architectural jewel of the city is the Stavropoleos church built at the beginning of the 18th century. The porch with sculptured stone columns and the facades decorated with paintings give the entire building a particular character. The city is proud of its monuments that are typical of Romanian architecture. Among them is the Museum of the History of the Communist Party, of the Revolutionary and Democratic Movement of Romania, the Minovici Feudal Art Museum, the Palace of the Ion Mincu Institute of Architecture, the Palace of the Bucharest Municipal People's Council, the History Museum of the Socialist Republic of Romania a.o.

Iași, in North-Eastern Romania, the former residence of the rulers of Moldova, has become an important cultural and industrial centre. It has numerous first-class historical and artistic monuments such as the Palace of Culture housing several cultural institutions, the University, inaugurated by Prince Alexandru Ion Cuza in 1860 and which continues the tradition of the Mihailana Academy founded in 1835, the monasteries Galata (16th century), Golia (16th century) and Cetățuia (17th century), and the Trei Ierarhi Church, with all its outside walls decorated and considered one of the most valuable achievements of 17th century Moldovian architecture.

Piatra Neamț is an important tourist and industrial centre standing in the picturesque Bistrița valley. The harmonious blend of modern districts and historical monuments gives the town a special atmosphere. Piatra Neamț is a suitable starting point for excursions to the famous Moldovian monasteries Agapia, Văratec, Neamț and Bistrița, to the fortress of Neamț, the reservoir lake at Bicaz, Cheile Bicazului and Lacul Roșu.

Suceava, a former capital of Moldova, and an important industrial and cultural centre, has numerous proofs of Moldova's glorious past, such as the vestiges of the rulers' fortress (16th century), the church of Sf. Ilie Nou (15th century), an important foundation of Prince Stephan the Great, and the church of Sf. Gheorghe (16th century), decorated with valuable mural pictures. From Suceava, modernized roads are leading to the monasteries of Putna, Voroneț, Sucevița a.o., masterpieces of Moldovian medieval architecture, whose walls are entirely decorated with mural pictures, whose fresh colours are still stupendous after 4—5 centuries.

Brașov, one of the main economic and tourist centres of Romania, stands near the Bucegi and Piatra Craiului mountains. The city has numerous historical monuments, among them the Black Church, built in the Gothic style and completed in the 15th century, and the Town Hall dating from the 15th century. A strong industrial centre, Brașov has big mills and factories, among them the Tractorul and Steagul Roșu works, whose tractors and lorries are exported to many countries all over the world. From Brașov one can make excursions to the fortified peasant settlements at Prejner, Hărman a.o.

A medieval burgh and now an important industrial and cultural centre, Sibiu has a rich treasure store of feudal vestiges, among them the bastions, towers and walls of the fortifications, a 15th century town hall, a Lutheran church in the Gothic style completed in the 15th century, as well as the baroque 18th century Brukenthal museum with its famous picture gallery and valuable collections of manuscripts and incunabula, and the new ethnographic museum.

The fortified town of Sighișoara, standing on the site of a Dacian settlement whose place was later taken by a Roman castrum, is renowned for its medieval picturesque architecture. This town, with its old, multi-coloured houses, massive staircases and huge arches is a harmonious blend of the past and the present. The old fortress has numerous almost unaltered architectural gems, among them the Biserica din Deal Church (14th century) in the Gothic style, decorated with mural paintings, the Clock Tower (14th century)

housing the City Museum, the imposing towers of the tinsmiths, the furriers etc.

In addition to these and other towns and cities, for instance Cluj-Napoca, which are difficult to describe but should be seen, Romania also has many other attractions such as the Prahova and Olt valleys with their fine health resorts, the Cheile Bicazului Pass with its imposing scenery, numerous caves and mountain lakes, all of which are attracting tourists and rapidly becoming internationally famous. Additional attractions are provided by the national parks and reservations with a specific vegetation and rare wild life, some specimens being unique in the world. Outstanding are the Delta of the Danube with its wonderful flora and fauna, the national park of the Retezat, the reservations in the Bucegi, Ceahlău and Pietrosul Mare mountains, the ancient forest of Slătioara, the Cetăţile Ponorului, the Lilac Woods of Oltenia and the Poiana Narciselor in the Făgăraş mountains. New hotels and other facilities will be built in the forthcoming years in several zones to promote the expansion of tourism.

The long-term programme provides for the creation of new tourist zones at Lacul Bîlea in the Făgăraş mountains, in the valleys of the Lotru and the Olt, on the Danube at the Iron Gates; more cableways and mountain roads will be built. Floating hotels will be built in the Delta of the Danube, a monument of nature unique in Europe, and the ways of access to the zone will be modernized. A great number of hotels will be commissioned in various parts of Romania in the forthcoming years.

The Ministry of Tourism of the Socialist Republic of Romania has its own agencies in the principal capitals and cities abroad, and it has relations with more than 400 travel agents and agencies in numerous countries of the world. Tourist visas to Romania are issued at every embassy or diplomatic mission of the Socialist Republic of Romania and also at every frontier station. Romania has concluded a number of tourist agreements, bilateral conventions with numerous countries eliminating entry, exit and transit visas. Foreign tourists can exchange money in advantageous conditions. Foreign travellers can effect payments in foreign currency at economic enterprises and organizations such as tourist agencies, hotels and big restaurants. Shops selling goods for foreign currency and granting 20 per cent price reductions have been opened along the tourist routes.

Physical Training and Sports.

In the Socialist Republic of Romania, sports is considered as part and parcel of the education of the young generation. The main feature of sports is mass physical training. Sports activities are developed in all educational establishments. Sports facilities have been created and are developing in enterprises and villages. The existence of many sports clubs, some of which are autonomous, while others are affiliated to diverse civic organizations, enables practically all the young people of this country to go in for sports. Mass and high-performance sports activities are guided and coordinated by a central representative body, the National Council for Physical Training and Sports, whose aim it is to draw all social and professional sections into sports.

The remarkable results scored by Romanian performers in several fields points to the fact that mass sports provides excellent opportunities for selection. In the last ten years, Romanian boxers have won laurels at all the world and European championships; this is due do the great popularity of boxing, which is encouraged in many clubs and enterprises.

The successive victories won year after year by Romanian kayak and canoe poddlers are the result of a long and persevering tradition. The absolute world supremacy of Romanian handball spotlights the fact that we always have the possibility of fielding fine players.

The success of 13 year - old Nadia Comăneci at the recent European Gymnastics Championships is the result of assiduous work by the youngest generation of Romanian gymnasts which is capable of producing promising teams.

Mass sports thus provides opportunities for the emergence of great champions. On the other hand, tennis, formerly considered a province of the privileged, has also become a mass sport, and is now played as passionately as soccer.

FOREIGN POLICY

Romania's foreign policy voices the profound aspirations of the Romanian nation which, dedicating its strength and energy to the huge work of the economic and social construction of its country, also demonstrates a lofty spirit of responsibility for the cause of peace and progress and concern with the fate of the whole of mankind. There is an indissoluble link, a powerful dialectical connection between Romania's home policy for an intensive economic development and the country's ascension to the level of the world's advanced states, for the uninterrupted growth of the entitre people's welfare, and its foreign policy.

Romania has relations with numerous countries of the world, whatever their social and political system. It is convinced that in the world today the development of international collaboration between all countries, big and small, the exchange of material and spiritual assets are an objective requirement of social progress and of the creation of a climate of security and mutual understanding.

Romania's foreign policy is based on the solid and permanent foundations of important principles: respect for national independence and sovereignty, the right of every people to free and sovereign development without any outside interference, full equality and mutual advantage. Romania is against the use and threat of force and against any dictate or arbitrariness in international relations.

Thanks to its successes at home and its principled and constructive foreign policy consistently pursued in all circumstances and in all international organizations, first and foremost at the United Nations, in bilateral relations, in its relations with all the states of the world, Romania has won a great prestige, which is also a striking expression of the ever larger acknowledgement of the need to strictly observe the principles and rules for which the Romanian state is consistently militating in its complex international political, social and economic dialogues.

In the Report he presented at the Eleventh Congress of the Romanian Communist Party, Nicolae Ceaușescu, the Party's General Secretary, declared: "The Central Committee and the Government have carried out an intensive international activity in order to expand the relations of collaboration of our country, for the active participation of Romania in the settlement of the big problems facing mankind, they have unflinchingly militated for a policy of collaboration, security and peace in the world. We may say that there were no important problems in the life of the world to whose solution Romania has not contributed in one way or another in the interest of all the peoples, in the interest of international collaboration."

As a socialist state, Romania obviously focusses its foreign policy on fraternal relations with all the socialist countries.

It pays attention to the expansion of its relations of many-sided collaboration and cooperation with the countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (which has nine socialist member sates) in order to contribute to the multilateral progress of each country, to the equalization of the economic development levels of the member states, to the efficient harnessing of their material and human resources in the spirit of independence and sovereignty, full equality, noninterference in domestic affairs, fraternal assistance and mutual advantage.

At the same time Romania develops relations of collaboration and cooperation with all the other socialist states of Europe, Asia and Latin America, considering as it does that this is the main factor in the rapid and multilateral progress of each socialist country.

The treaties of friendship, collaboration and mutual assistance concluded twenty years ago with the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary were renewed and the first treaty of friendship, collaboration and mutual

assistance with the German Democratic Republic was signed. Economic, technical, scientific and cultural exchanges have grown considerably, there has been a development of cooperation in production and an intensification in the exchange of experience between Romania and these friendly socialist countries. Relations between Romania and Yugoslavia have also strongly developed in all fields. Relations of manysided collaboration with the People's Republic of Albania also have an ascending evolution. The permanent expansion, intensification and diversification of the relations of fraternal friendship and collaboration with the socialist countries have the essential benefit of contacts, talks and exchanges of views at the highest level proceeding bilaterally or multilaterally between party and state leaders.

There has been a continuous development of the links of fraternal economic, political and cultural collaboration between Romania and the People's Republic of China, the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Mongolian People's Republic. Of great importance were the visits of the Romanian Party and state delegation headed by President Nicolae Ceaușescu to the socialist countries of Asia, the talks it had with the party and state leaders of those countries. One also has to mention the good relations of friendship and collaboration and the visit of the Party and Government delegation to Cuba, the first socialist state of Latin America, a fruitful visit voicing the desire to still further develop collaboration and cooperation with that far-away country.

Of great importance in Romania's external policy is the intensification of contacts and multilateral relations of collaboration with the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America which have set out on the road of independent economic and social development. The visits paid by the Head of the Romanian State to several countries on those continents demonstrated Romania's concern with developing a long-range efficient collaboration with the countries concerned. In the view of the Romanian state, the continuous growth of relations with those states is a concrete contribution of socialist Romania to the efforts they are making to consolidate their political and economic independence, to assert their personality in international affairs, to strengthen the forces fighting

against the imperialist policy of force and dictate, to promote the rule of law and ethics in inter-state relations.

Romania, a socialist and developing country, believes that the safest means to the achievement of the Afro-Asian and Latin American nations' fundamental aims of independent economic, social and political development resides, in the first place, in the intensification of their own efforts, the mobilization of their entire human and material potential, the concentration and union of al the advanced, progressive forces of each nation. Romania displays full solidarity with the struggle of the peoples for the winning and consolidation of national independence, for economic and social progress.

Furthermore, believing that one of the most ardent problems of the world today is the final elimination of colonialism and of the new form of the subjection of peoples, neocolonialism, Romania gives its active and manysided assistance to the national liberation movements and supports the just cause of the peoples which are still under colonial domination. Romania is working consistently for the international recognition of the legitimacy of the struggle waged by those national movements, which are the only ones representing the will of the respective peoples.

In the circumstances in which the struggle of the peoples on all continents for the abolition of every remnant of imperialist economic, political and military domination is becoming more intensive, Romania vigorously upholds the right of the peoples to be the masters of their countries and to independently decide their fate, the sovereign right of every state to use its wealth freely, in accord with its aspirations and in keeping with its own interests.

In the spirit of the principles of peaceful coexistence and consistently pursuing a policy designed to improve the international climate, Romania also promotes relations of collaboration with the capitalist states. It believes that the continuous expansion and consolidation of relations of collaboration with all the countries of the world, whatever their social system, is a significant feature of international politics in our time, and therefore pays great attention to this characteristic trait. In our days, when the gains of science and technology provide the peoples with a great variety of means

and possibilities to increase their material and spiritual wealth and to harness their natural resources for the benefit of society, the development of relations between states having different social systems and the equal and mutually advantageous participation of all the states in the world-wide exhange of assets becomes an objective requirement of progress and peace in the world.

The meetings and talks the Head of the Romanian State had with the leaders of developed capitalist states made a remarkable contribution to the diversification and development of Romania's links with the developed capitalist countries. Documents of the greatest significance for the amplification of Romania's relations with those states were signed on those occasions. They had a wide international response, demonstrating the efforts that are being made for the construction of a better and juster world, for detente, for the establishment of peace and collaboration everywhere.

The dynamism and scope of Romania's external policy is illustrated by the fact that whereas in 1960 this country had diplomatic and consular relations with 48 states, in 1975 such relations existed with 125 states. Romania's participation in international life also results from the fact that it belongs to 44 inter-governmental and to 532 non-governmental organizations.

As a European country, Romania is vitally interested in the development of relations of mutual understanding and rapprochement between all the states of the continent. The establishment of security is a cardinal problem in the life of the peoples of Europe, and it is also an important factor making for stability and peace in the world. The establishment of security in Europe would also have a great influence on détente in the relations of the states of all the continents.

Romania actively participated in the drawing up of the Prague Statement of January 1972 of the Warsaw Treaty States on Peace, Security and Collaboration, which spotlights the fundamental principles of European security and of relations between the states of the continent, principles which the socialist countries believe should be known and applied in politics: the inviolability of frontiers, the renunciation of force; peaceful coexistence, good-neighbourly relations and collaboration for peace, mutually advantageous links

between states; disarmament, and support for the actions undertaken by the United Nations in that direction.

The decision adopted on February 1, 1972 by the Executive Committee of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party, the State Council and the Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Romania on European security emphasizes that one of the basic tasks of the foreign policy of the Communist Party and of the Socialist Republic of Romania is to work consistently for the establishment in the life of our continent of new relations founded on respect for national independence and sovereignty which would exclude the use of force and the threat of force and would offer all states full guarantees that they will be protected against any act of aggression, that they will be able to develop freely, in accordance with their will, and will be able to collaborate without hindrance in a climate of understanding and full equality.

Several factors in recent years are logical elements in the comprehensive process of renewal leading to detente and collaboration, to the establishment of security in Europe. They include the signing and ratification of the Soviet-West German and Polish-West German treaties, the conclusion of the quadripartite agreement on West Berlin, the signing of the treaty on the foundations of relations between the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany, the conventions and agreements between the two German states, between the German Democratic Republic and the Senate of West Berlin, between the Federal Republic of Germany and Czechoslovakia a.s.o.

There has also been a significant evolution in European political thinking. The idea of building a lasting system of European security and cooperation has passed from the phase of discussion to the phase of feasibility, to the phase of the concrete transformation of our continent into a zone of peace, collaboration and security. The convening of the General European Conference on Security and Cooperation, its proceedings, the agreements that have been reached and the results that have been obtained demonstrate that all conditions are at hand to establish security in Europe.

As a European state, Romania is paying special attention to the establishment of relations on this continent which

would give every nation the possibility of concentrating its forces in the direction of economic and social development, of progres, and of promoting wide collaboration between all the states. That is why, together with the socialist countries, with all the states of the continent, Romania has been working steadfastly for the establishment of European security.

The Romanian people welcomed the successful conclusion of the European Conference on Security and Cooperation, appreciating it as a moment of historic significance in the political life of the European continent, which marks a new spirit in international relations by laying the foundations of an ample and deep process of building security on our continent, with particulary positive implications for the whole of mankind.

The signing by the President of the Socialist Republic of Romania of the Final Act of the conference for security and cooperation fully corresponds to the interests of the Romanian people, of the other European peoples, of the cause of security, cooperation and peace in Europe and the world over.

The Socialist Republic of Romania — inspired by the interests of building the new social system, of international collaboration and peace — has actively participated, together with the other states, in the efforts for the convening, preparation and progress of the conference, carrying out a sustained activity for the elaboration of the clearest possible commitments for the affirmation of new concepts and principles in international life, the promotion of democratic modalities and rules, which sanction the equality of states, to ensure the complete success of the European Conference on Security and Cooperation.

On adopting, at the highest level, this important document, the states participating in the conference took the solemn pledge to ensure the continuation of the course of détente, to solve all disputed problems between them by negotiation, to found their relations on the principles of fully equal rights, respect for national independence and sovereignty, renunciation of the threat or use of force, to build a Europe of understanding and peace, in which

the aspirations of social progress and free economic development of all peoples should freely assert themselves.

The Socialist Republic of Romania considers that by the successful conclusion of the conference a new decisive stage for the life of the European peoples will be opened, in which vigorous action has to be taken for the firm implementation of the principles and norms recorded in the documents, with a view to creating a lasting system of security and collaboration on our continent. The realization of the measures written into the documents of the conference must lead to the increase of confidence between states as well as to the opening of ways for new steps towards the solution of the still unsettled questions.

The realization of a real security and peace on the European continent is indissolubly linked to the adoption of resolute disarmament measures, and of nuclear disarmament in the first place. It is necessary that concrete measures be taken for the halting of the production of nuclear armament, for its elimination and the outlawing of atomic armament.

The interests of security ask for resolute action with a view to withdrawing the nuclear armament and foreign troops from the territories of other states to within the national boundaries, for the reduction of national armies, armaments and military expenditures, for the development of confidence and collaboration which should lead to the abolition of opposing military blocs, to the concomitant dissolution of the North Atlantic Pact and of the Warsaw Treaty.

We consider that an important step for the military disengagement and the realization of a climate of real security would be constituted by the creation of denuclearized areas in Europe as well as on the other continents of the world. In this spirit, Romania pays particular attention to the development of relations of collaboration and good neighbourliness in the Balkans, to the transformation of this area into a zone without foreign troops and military bases, into a nuclear-free region of peace and peaceful cooperation. .

Romania also strongly advocates the peaceful settlement of the situation on Cyprus, a solution ensuring the integrity

and sovereignty of Cyprus and securing peaceful coexistence and collaboration between the two communities. The settlement of the conflict in this spirit corresponds to the interests of the Cypriot people, of the Greek and Turkish peoples, of the cause of collaboration and peace in the Balkans, in the Mediterranean, in Europe and throughout the world.

We believe that peace and security cannot be achieved unless anachronic situations are fully eliminated, unless new relations are established which will exclude the use and the threat of force, as well as any interference in the affairs of other states, relations leading to free and equal collaboration in all fields between the countries of the continent and between the European countries and the other nations of the world.

As to the situation in the Middle East, Romania has constantly advocated and advocates the settlement of the Middle East question on the basis of full equality between all the states, giving each people the right to free and independent development, to welfare and happiness. The continuous state of tension in the Middle East is a continuous threat to world peace and security. Sustained efforts have to be made in order to speedily achieve a just and lasting peace in that part of the world. A start in that direction has to be made with the withdrawal of Israel from the Arab territories occupied during the 1967 war and the solution of the problem of the Palestinian people, that is the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. The settlement of the Middle East problems has to secure the integrity and sovereignty of all the states of the zone; it has to open a new era of reconciliation and peaceful coexistence, of good neighbourliness. It is only in this way that the social and economic progress of all the states of the Middle East can be achieved in a climate of peace and collaboration.

Like other states, we believe that the reopening of the Geneva Conference on the problems of the Middle East is an important step on the way to the political settlement of the conflict. We believe one should consider the expansion of the framework of the conference via the participation of other interested states as well. In view of the gravity of the situation in the Middle East, all states, whether or not they participate in the Geneva Conference, should intensify

their efforts for the finding of a political solution to the conflict. An increasingly important role has to be played in this context by the Security Council and by the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Welcoming the victories of the peoples of Guinea Bissau, Mozambique and Angola who have von independence, Romania expresses the hope that the full unity of the national liberation forces will be established in each state and important successes will be obtained in the shaping of a new, free and independent life. The Socialist Republic of Romania, which has always lent material, political and diplomatic assistance to the struggle of those peoples, as to the national liberation struggle in general, is determined to develop relations of close collaboration with them in the new conditions with a view to their free and independent development.

The winning of full independence by those peoples creates favourable conditions for the fight for the rapid abolition of the policy of racism, of apartheid, for the independent development of all the peoples of Africa.

The Romanian people salutes the Vietnamese and Cambodian peoples which, the Vientamese people after 30 years of fighting, have scored historic victories against foreign intervention, against the anti-national and reactionary forces at home, and have taken their fate into their own hands. Romania, which has backed the Vietnamese and Cambodian peoples in their struggle in many ways, assures the peoples of Indochina that, in the spirit of militant solidarity, it will carry forward multilateral collaboration in the new conditions, believing that the situation created for the free evolution of the peoples concerned should lead to a strengthening of solidarity and collaboration between all the forces and peoples desiring peace and independence.

In our view, the victory of the Vietnamese and Cambodian peoples, like the successes won in recent years by other peoples fighting for national liberation, once again demonstrates that the policy of force, of the oppression of other peoples, is condemned to failure, that no power in the world can prevent the triumph of the peoples fighting resolutely for independence, for economic and social progress, for a free life.

In pursuing its external policy, Romania militates for the elimination of all the seats of tension in the world, for the elimination of all the sources of conflict and war. That is why Romanian foreign policy is paying special attention to general and toal disarmament and, first and foremost, to nuclear disarmament.

At all international gatherings the Romanian state strongly advocates the abolition of military blocs and the dismantling of military bases on the territories of other states, the withdrawal of foreign troops to within their national borders. It opposes any demonstration of force leading to international tension, any act designed to stimulate the arms race.

"Disarmament, this great desire of the peoples," declares President Nicolae Ceaușescu, "would not only be of overwhelming importance to world peace, but it would also directly contribute to the acceleration of the development of human civilization."

The more than 200,000 million dollars spent in 1974 on armament could have achieved very much for the progress of the undeveloped countries and for the solution of many social problems in numerous countries.

The promotion of such a policy would make it possible to act with more determination in the direction of bridging the gaps of economic, cultural and social development between the various zones of the world, of backing the efforts made by the lagging states and of accelerating their advance on the road of progress and prosperity.

Proceeding from the belief that international bodies can play an important role in the observance of the principles of international law and in the development of inter-state relations, Romania is making an active contribution to the entire work of the United Nations and the other world bodies. It is in this context that Romania has joined GATT and several bodies of the United Nations. At the initiative of Romania and other states, the United Nations has adopted several important resolutions, for instance those referring to the development of regional actions and good-neighbourly relations between states having different social systems, to the promotion in the ranks of the youth of the ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding between peoples, the role

of science and technology in the development of nations and the need of strengthening inter-state economic, technical and scientific cooperation, a.s.o.

Interested in the settlement of the big problems now facing mankind, in the peace and progress of the peoples, Romania believes that it is necessary to increase the role of the United Nations, that the United Nations has to work with greater determination for the observance of the United Nations Charter by all the members of the Organization, by all the states of the world; it believes that the principles of international law have to be similarly respected and that the United Nations has to see to the elimination of the use of force and the threat of force from inter-state relations. The United Nations Organization should militate for the implementation of the declarations of principles of the states, of all its decisions and resolutions. It can thereby contribute to the improvement of international life, to the creation of a climate of trust, in which all the peoples can dedicate their efforts to social progress, peace and international collaboration. This is the more important today, when seats of tension and war have appeared, problems which require the political settlement of differences by negotiation as an alternative to the policy of force and dictate.

Proceeding from a position of principle which it has frequently expounded and consistently applied, Romania believes that in our time all the states, regardless of their size, big, small or medium-sized, have to participate more intensely and efficiently in the solution of international problems. Every nation bears a great responsibility for the fate of peace, each nation has to play an active role in the political and economic life of the world, each has to make a contribution to the solution of the problems facing mankind.

The constructive actions Romania has carried out in international affairs have won for this country and its policy appreciation, esteem and consideration from its partners all over the world. Interest in Romania and its prestige among the nations of the world have been frequently confirmed in recent years. Numerous statesmen and political, economic, scientific and cultural personalities of many countries have praised the great achievements of the Romanian

people, the high-rate development of Romania's socialist society, pointing to the active, positive presence and significant initiatives of contemporary Romania in the international arena.

Engaged in a vast social enterprise of developing the forces of production and the national wealth, of promoting science, culture and the arts and, on this basis, of raising the material and spiritual level of the entire people, Romania is carrying out a sustained and vigorous international activity for the assertion of new, democratic principles in interstate relations, for the wide development of multilateral collaboration between the nations, for the establishment of the new world economic and political order.

The creation of the new international economic order has to give every nation the possibility of harnessing its entire material and human potential for its own prosperity without any outside interference. In the conditions of the growing inter-dependence between states, international economic relations have to be established which result in the harmonious development of all the national economies. Such a new order calls for full equality between all the states, whatever their size or social system, for respect for the independence and sovereignty of every people, for non-interference in domestic affairs, guaranteed mutual advantage, the abolition of all discriminations and artificial barriers in the way of international trade and cooperation, for the creation of all the conditions needed for the intensification of free economic exchanges and collaboration.

This also requires the establishment of a correct relationship between the prices of raw materials and of industrial goods, taking into consideration production outlays as well as the use value of commodities, so that the prices stimulate the development of the forces of production, the intensification of economic activities in all countries.

The realistic, active and creative foreign policy of socialist Romania is the expression of the concordance that has to exist between principle and action. It always proceeds from the objective examination of the main revolutionary transformations occurring in the world today, from the clearsighted assessment of the world relationship of forces, which is a condition for the elaboration of a correct national foreign policy. This policy identifies itself with the will and desires of the Romanian nation, which is unflinchingly advancing towards progress and a higher civilization in the shaping of its future in freedom and peace.

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Socialist Republic of Romania

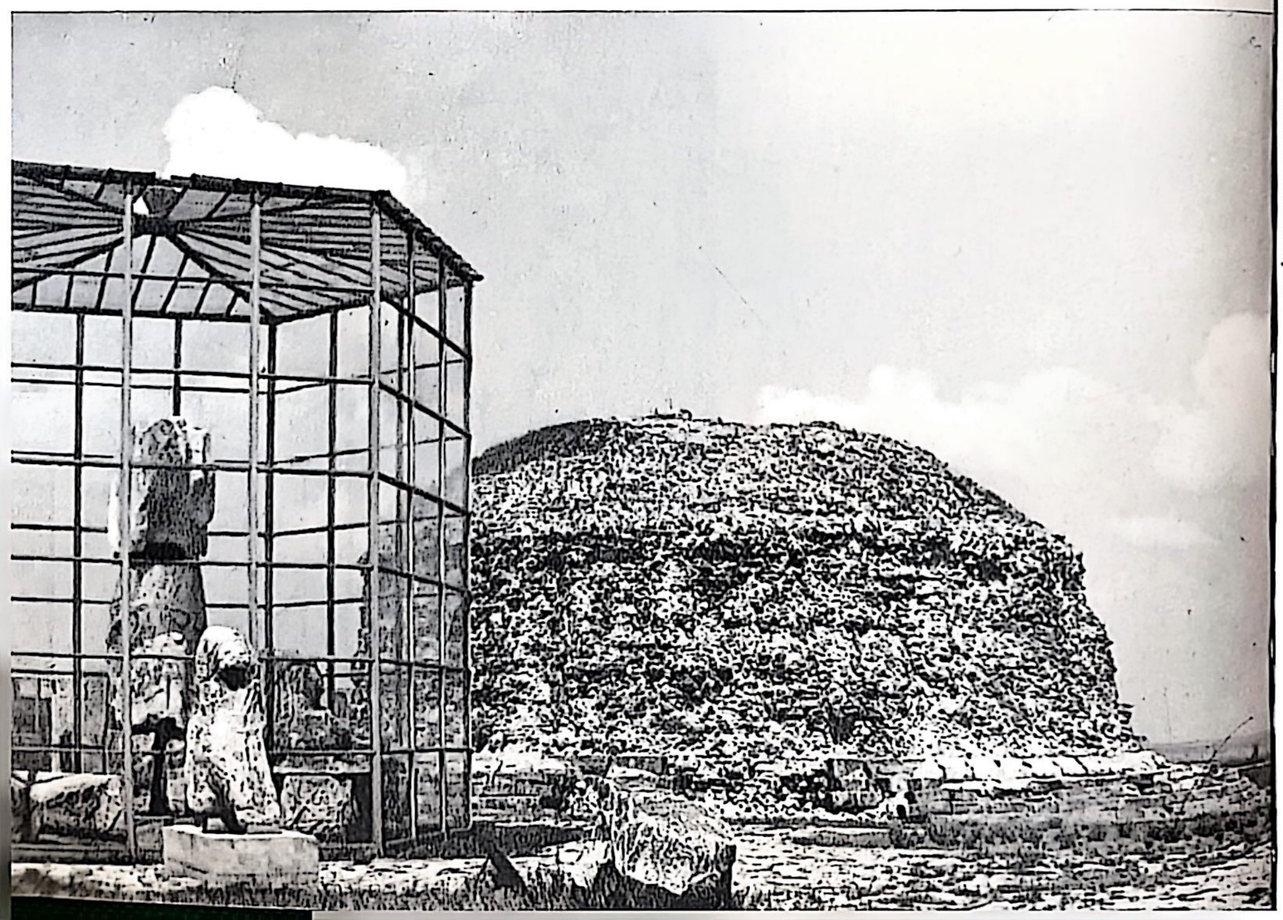
Scene from Trajan's Column

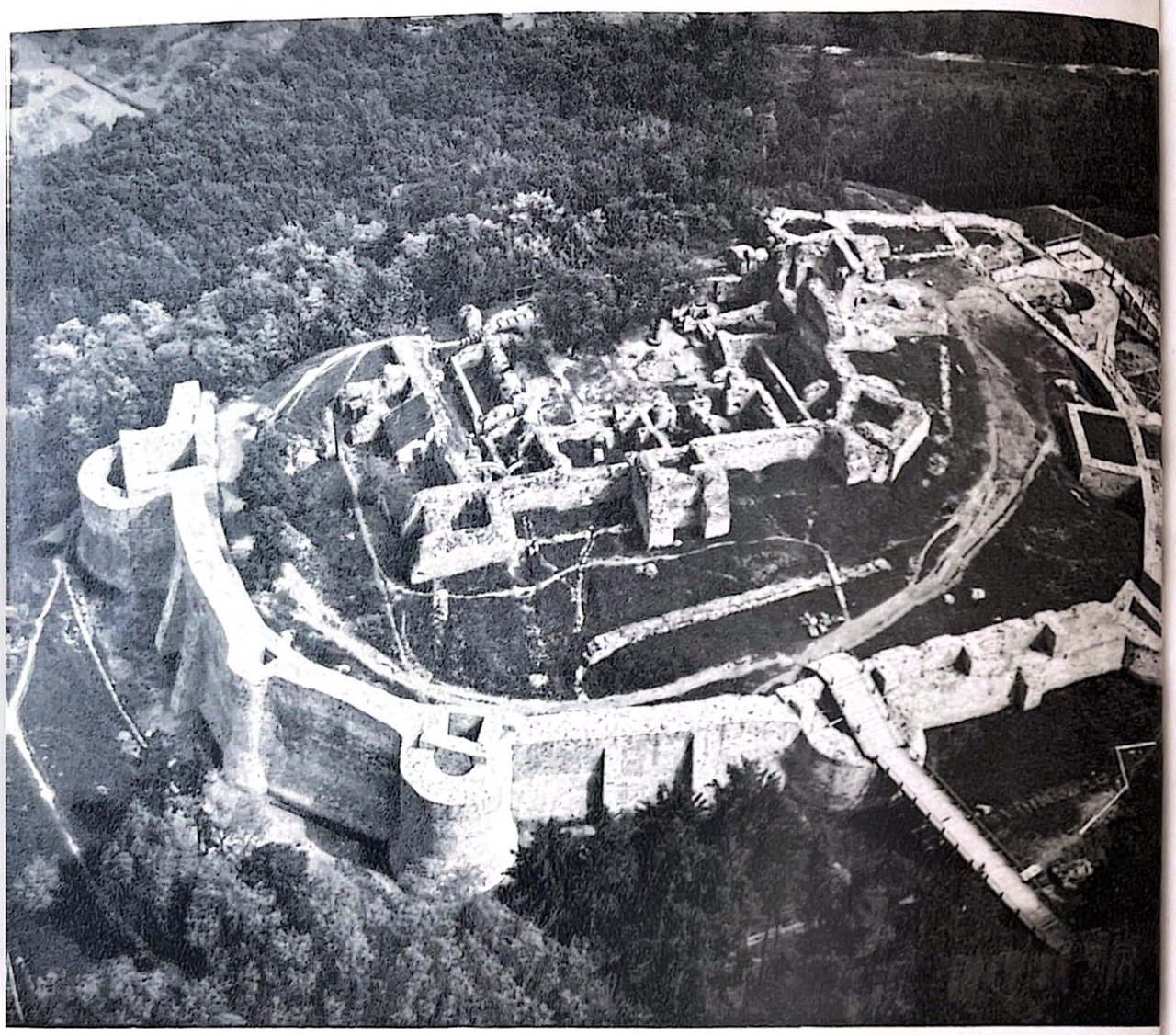
Decebalus

Trajan

Histria – Milesian colony

Adamclisi – ruins of the monument "Tropaeum Trajani" built in the 2-nd century A. D.





Suceava stronghold

Stephen the Great

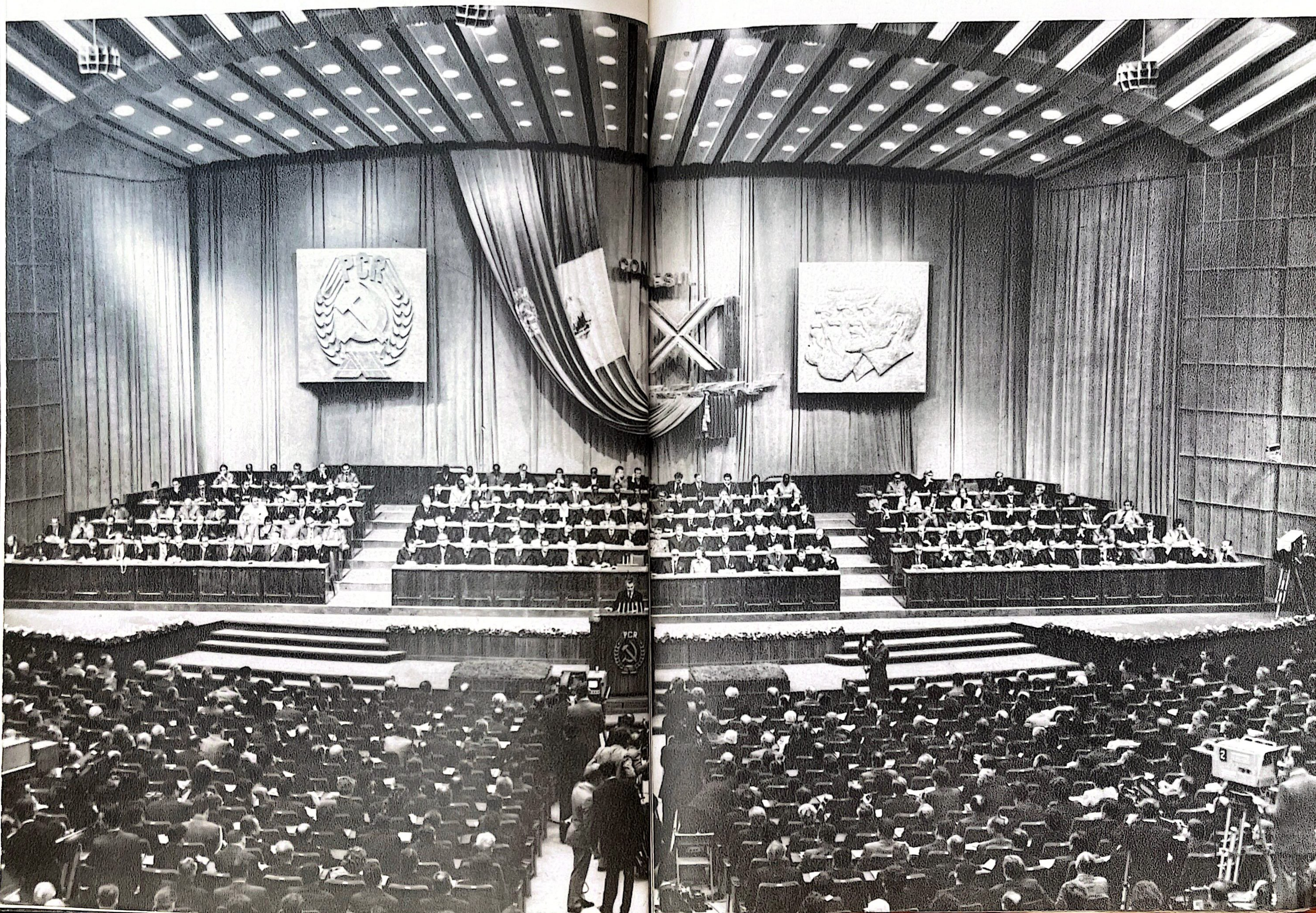
Voroneț Monastery

Curtea de Argeș Monastery

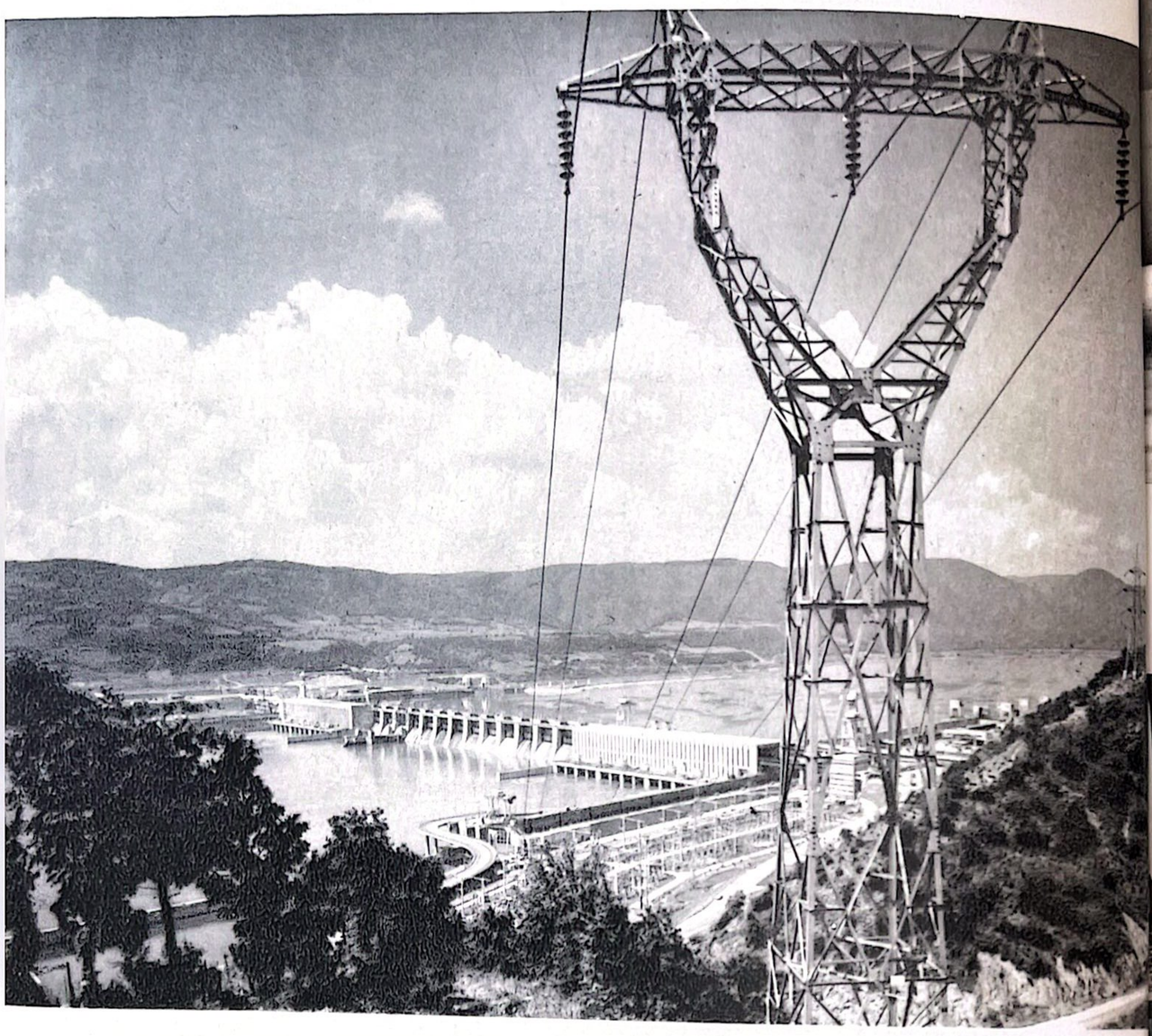
Michael the Brave

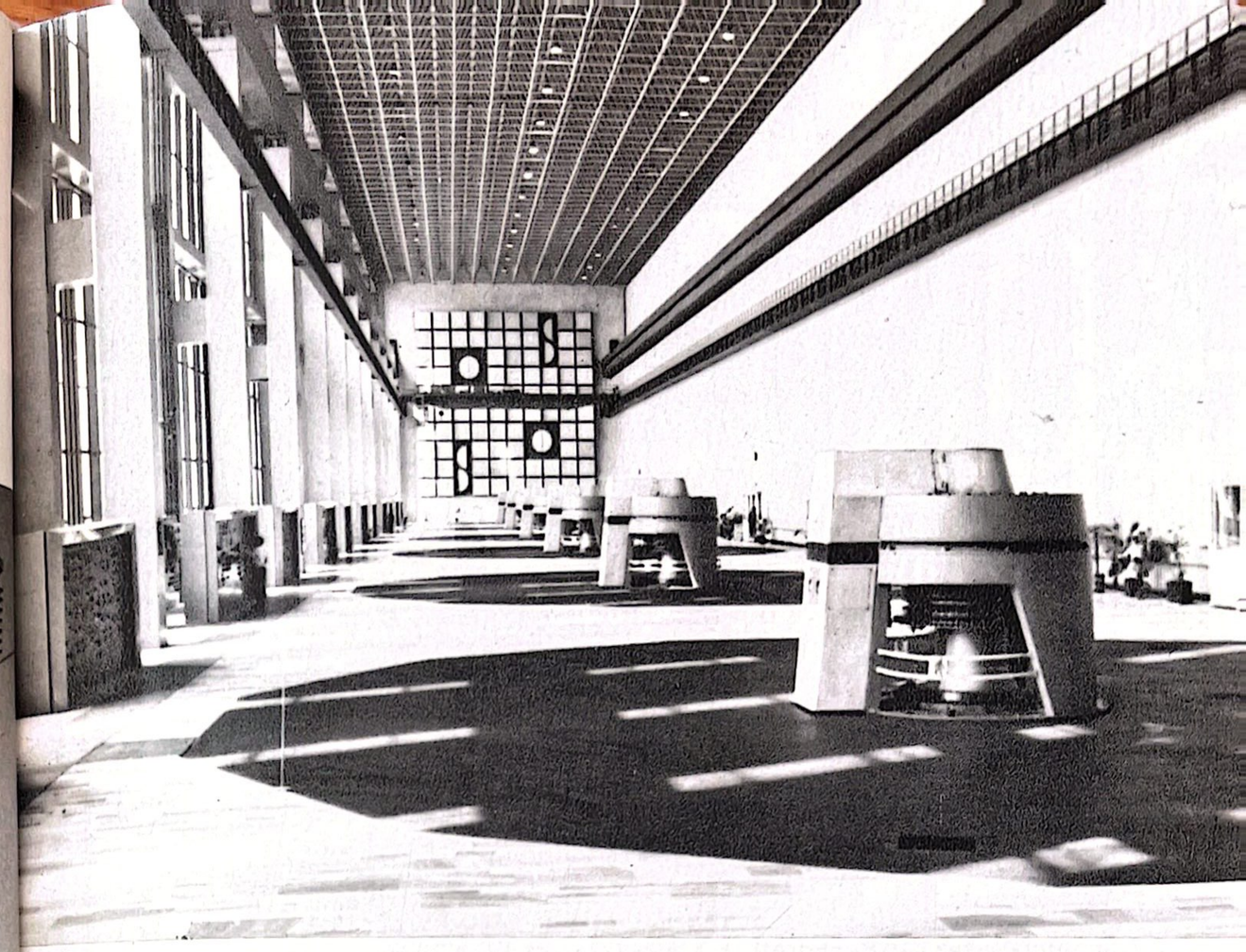
The seal of the ruling prince, Michael the Brave, a symbol of the Union in 1600 of Wallachia, Transylvania and Moldavia.

Eleventh Congress of the
Romanian Communist Party



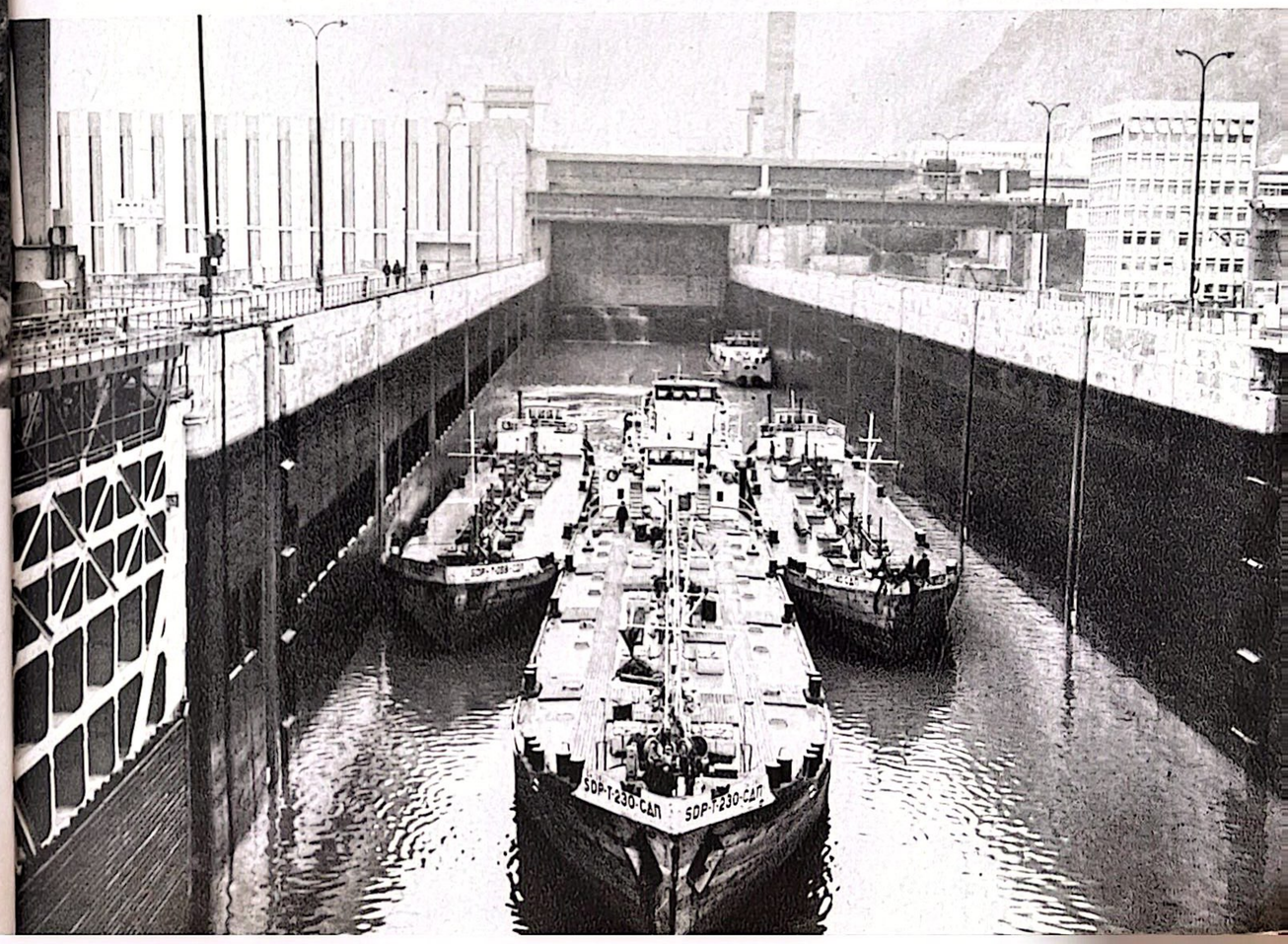
Dam and the Danube Iron Gates
Hydro-electric power station





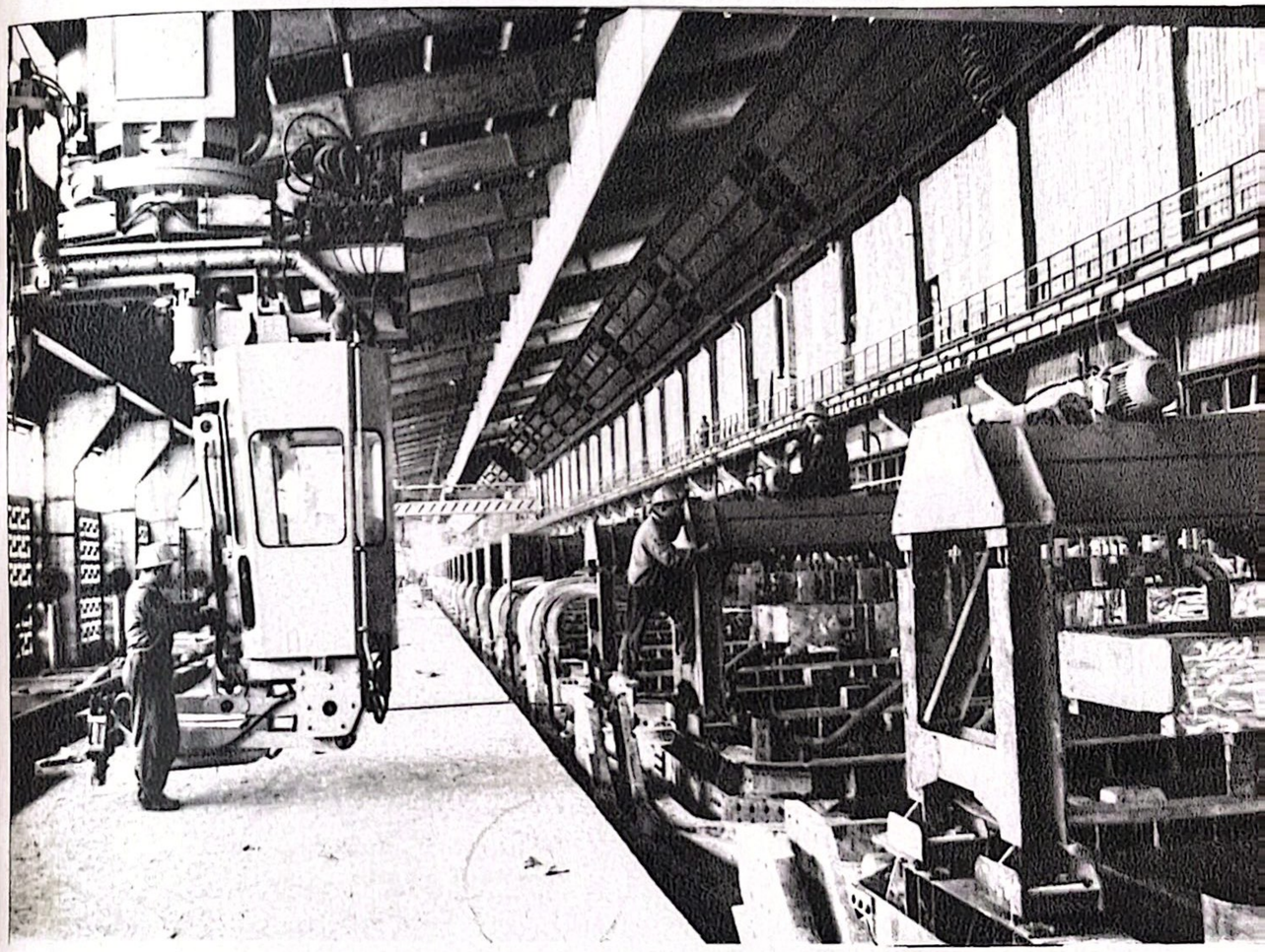
Turbines Hall at "Iron Gates"
Hydro-electric power station

Lock – The Danube Iron Gates



Computer works – Bucharest

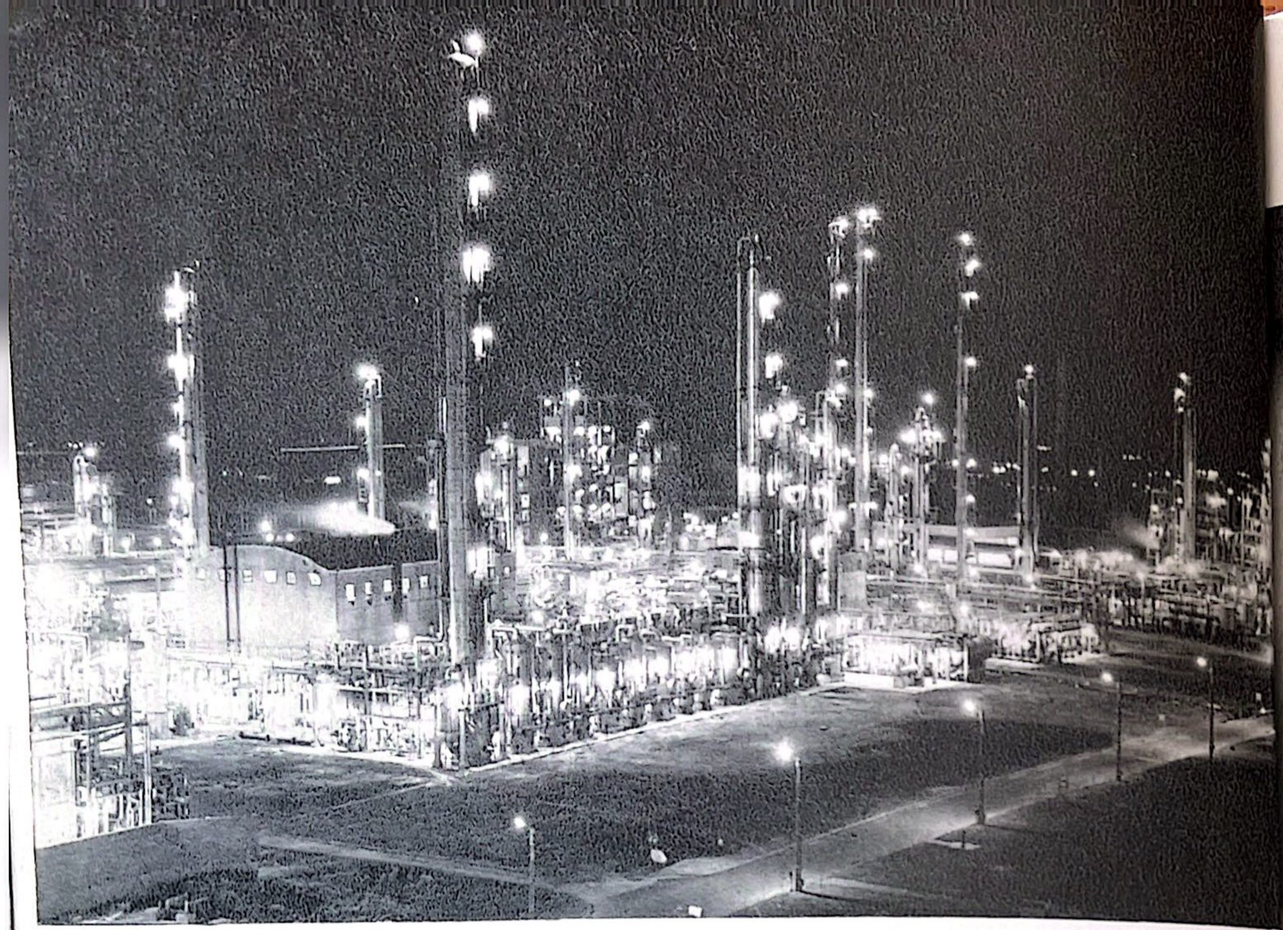
Vidraru – dam on the Argeș river



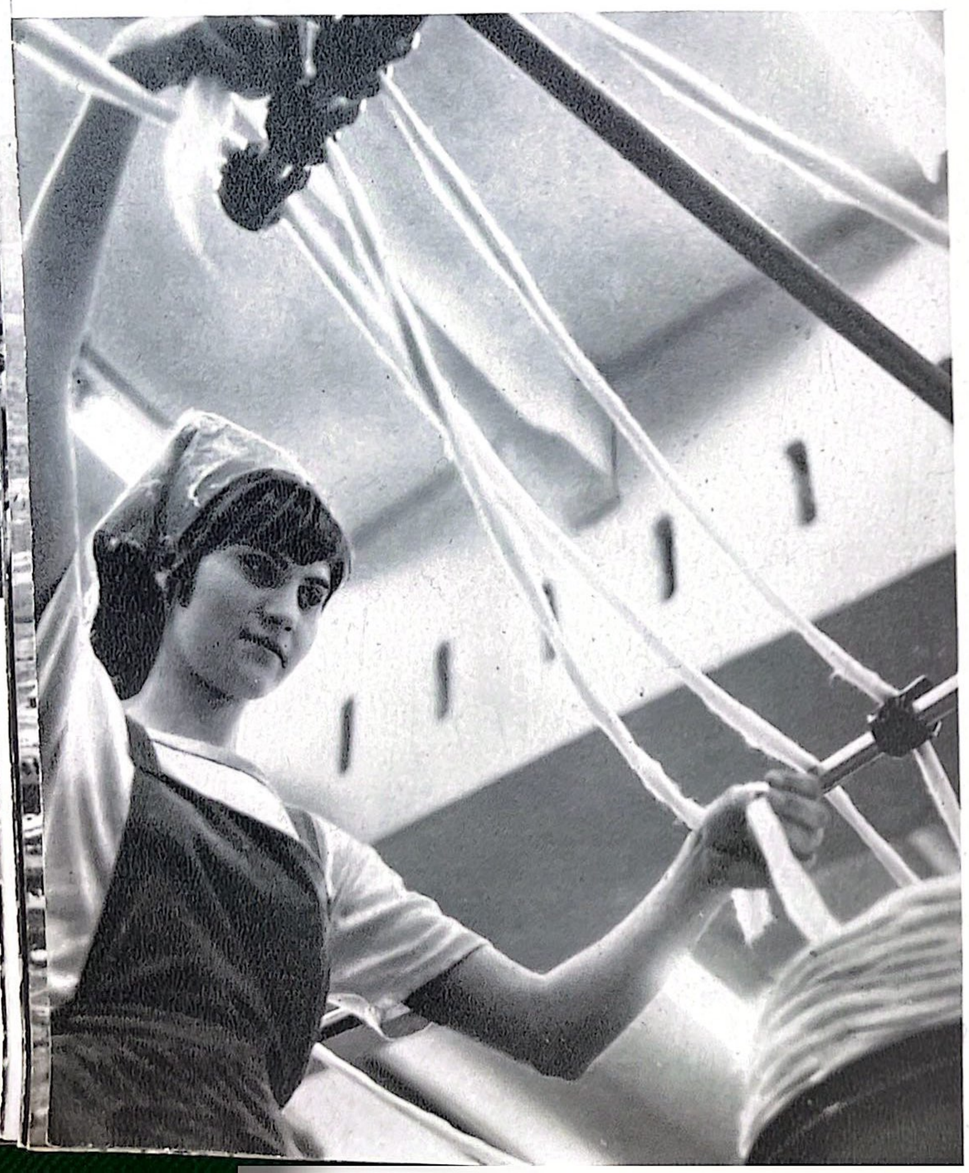
Electrolysis hall of Slatina aluminium works

Shipyard in Constanța

Chemical platform-Borzeşti



Pitești petrochemical complex



Slobozia spinning works

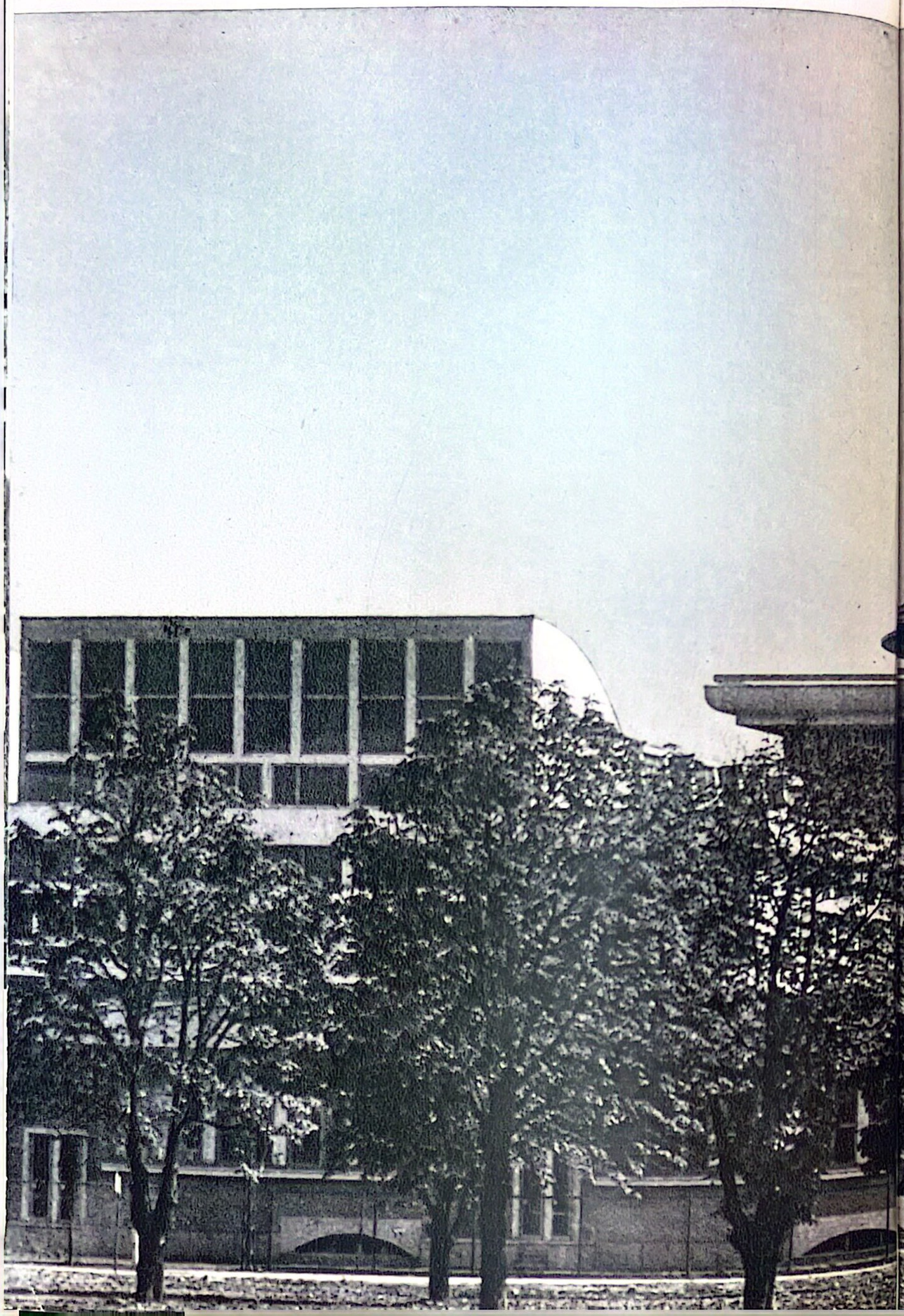
I.P.R.S. Băneasa

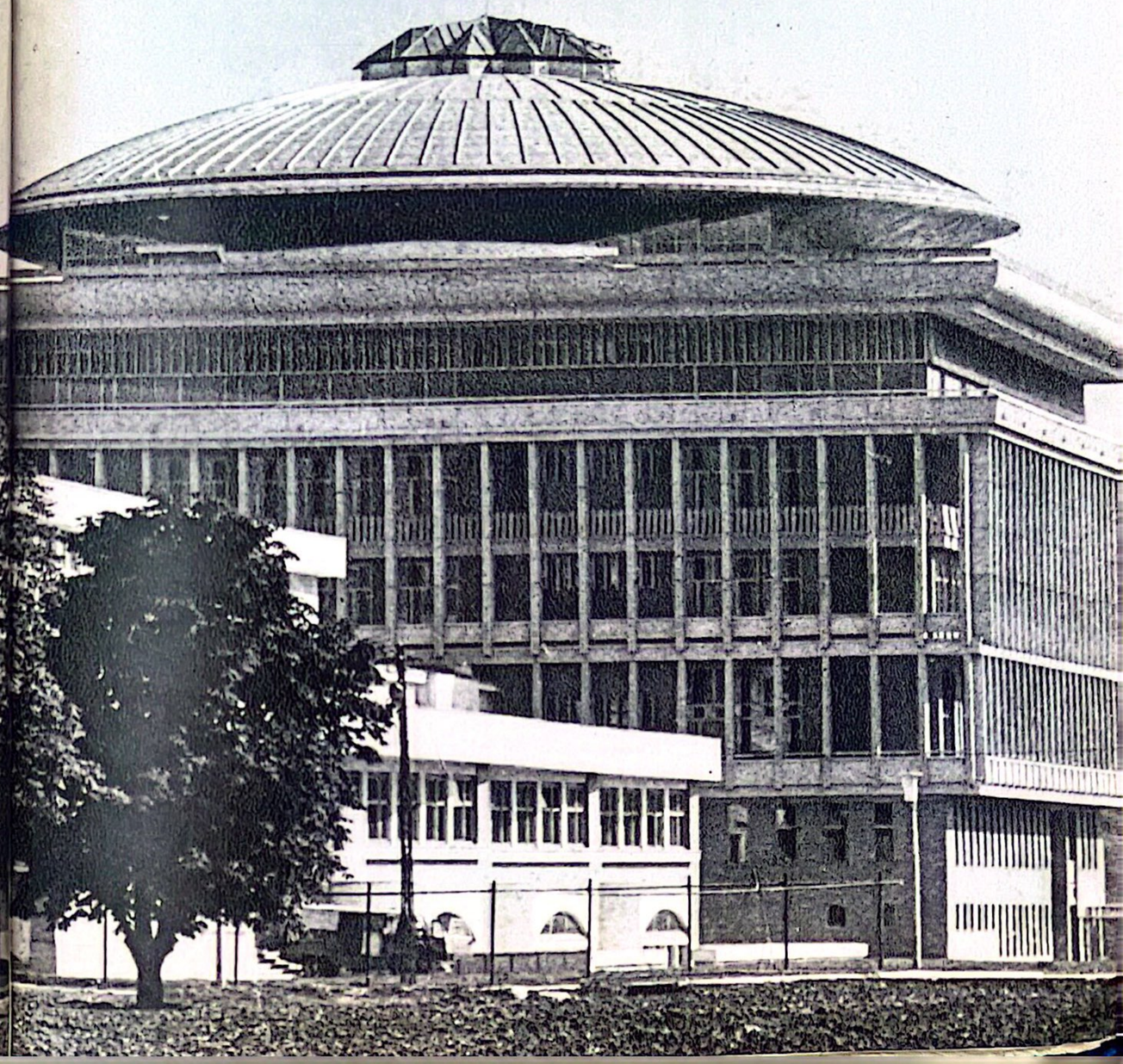
Pig growing and fattening combine – Căzănești, Ialomița county

Harvesting

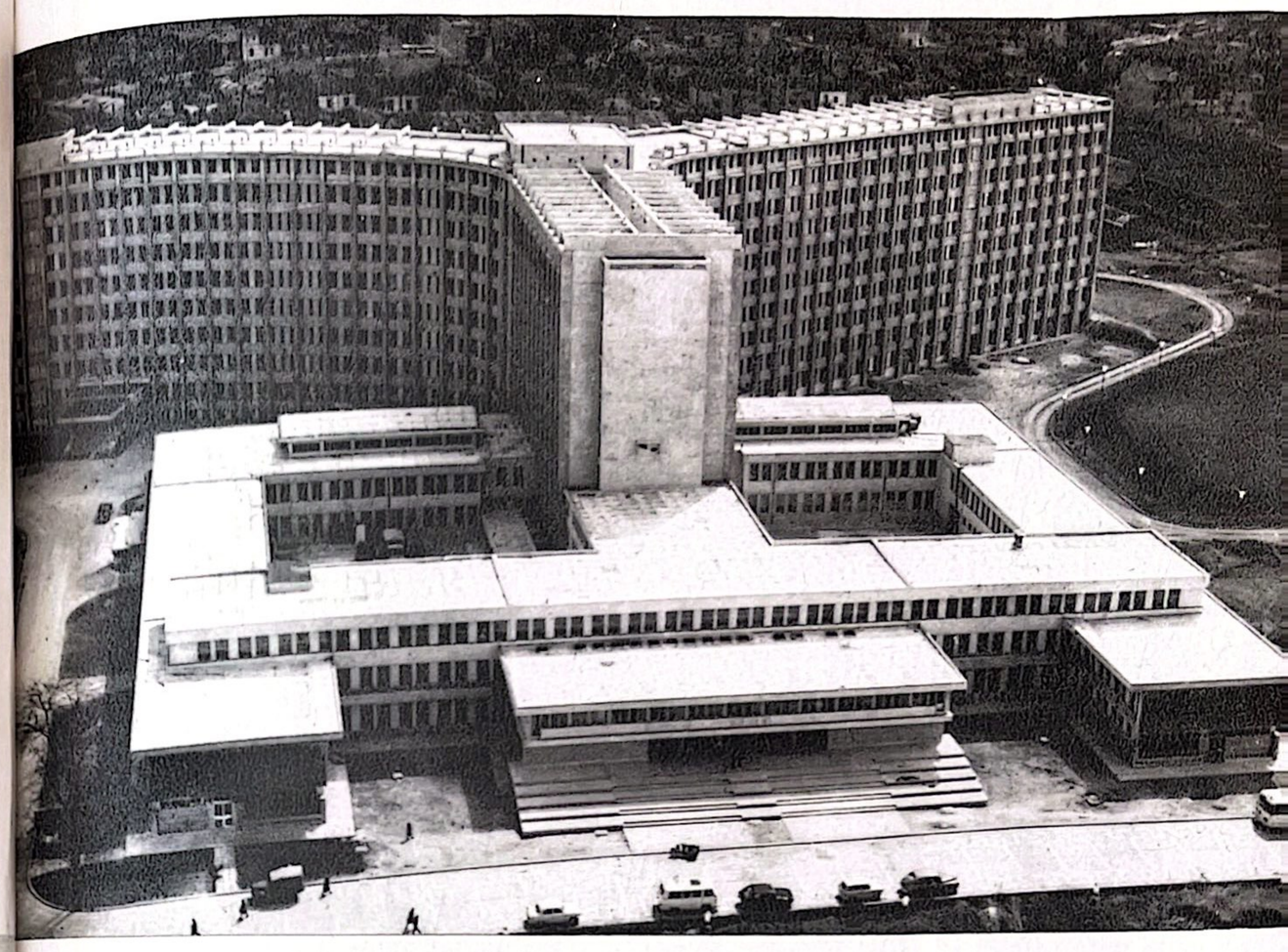
Bucharest, Titan new residential area ►

Bucharest, Polytechnical Institute



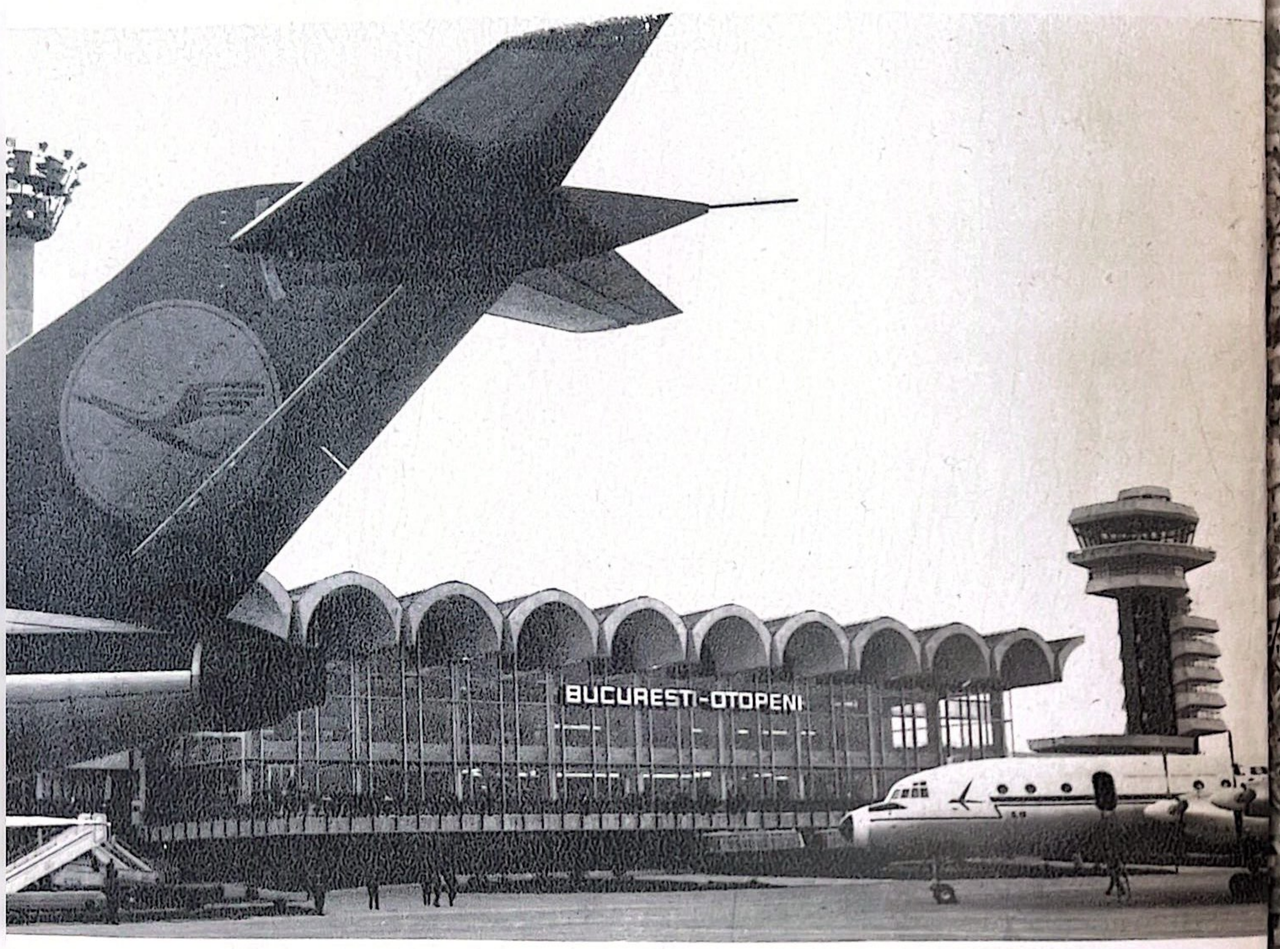


Sibiu – Trade Union House of Culture



Constanța – The new hospital

Bucharest–National Theatre and Intercontinental Hotel



Otopeni airport – Bucharest

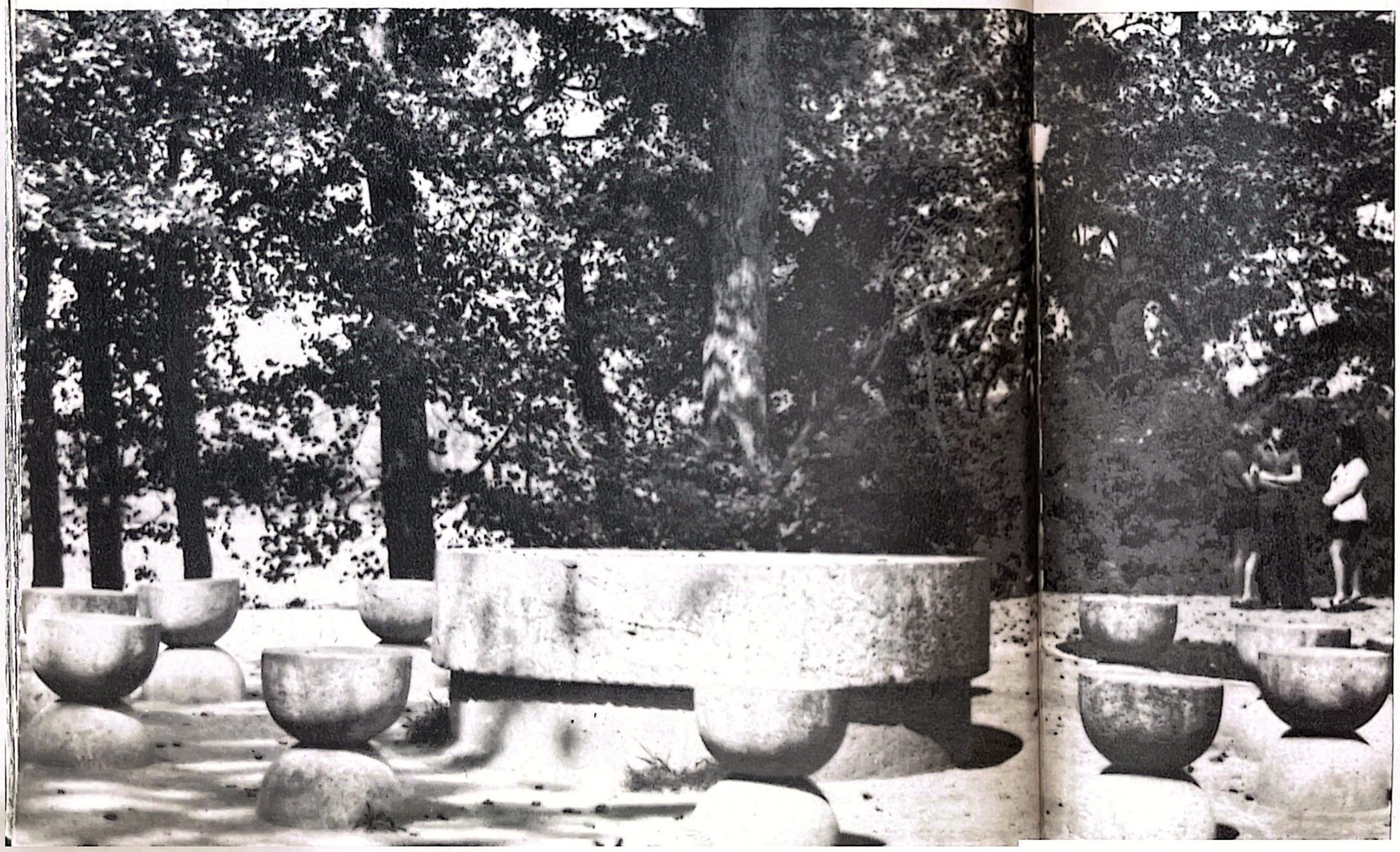
Brașov – view from Tîmpa

Mangalia Nord health resort

The Danube Delta

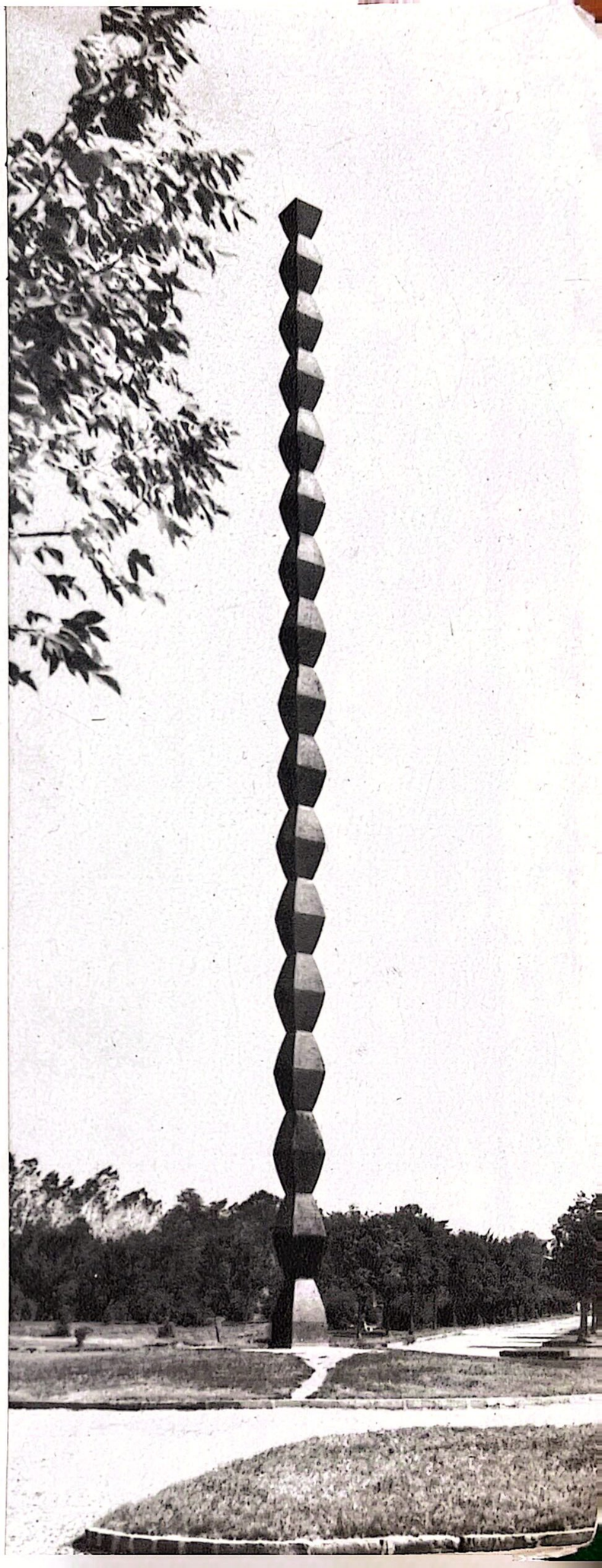
Picnic

Sculpture camp of Măgura – Buzău



Constantin Brîncuși –
Endless Column

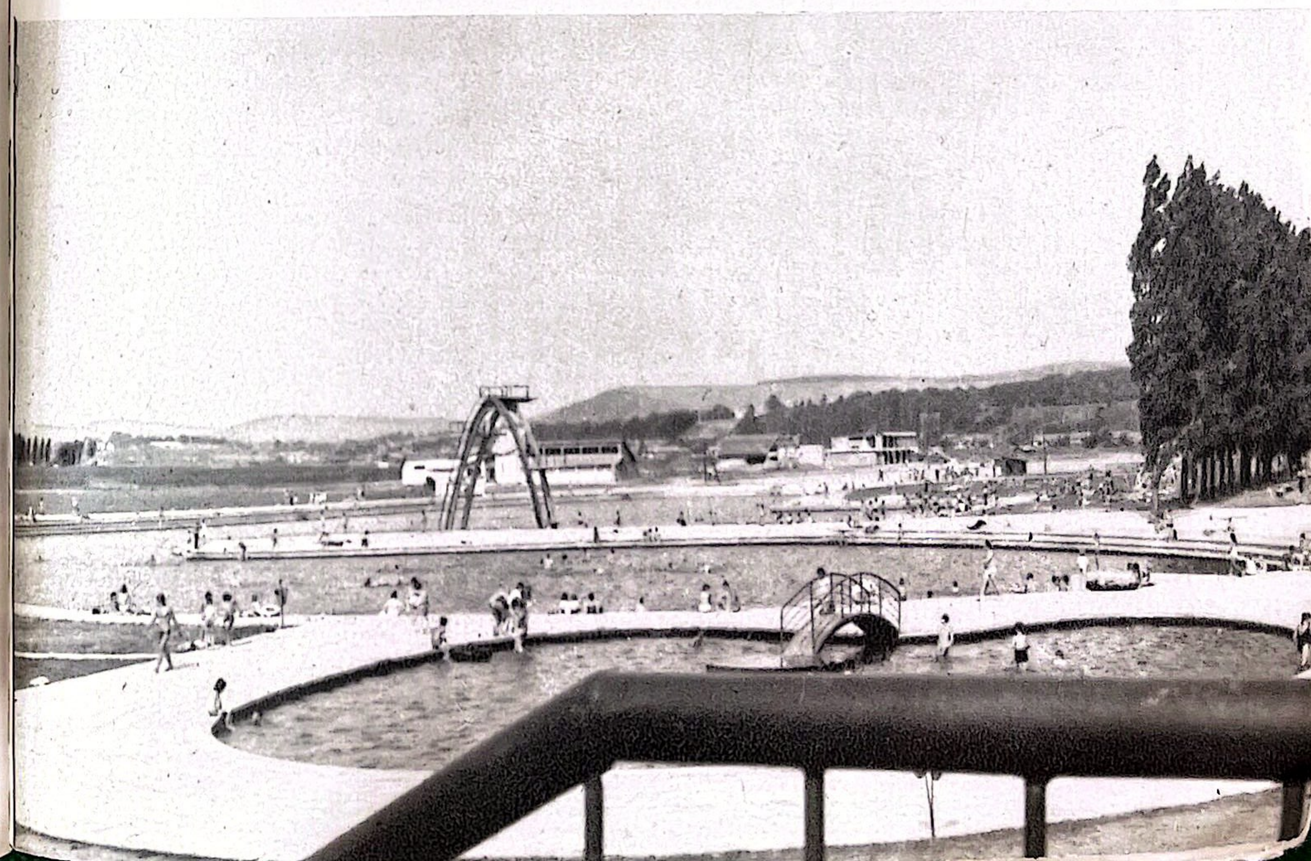
Constantin Brîncuși –
Table of Silence

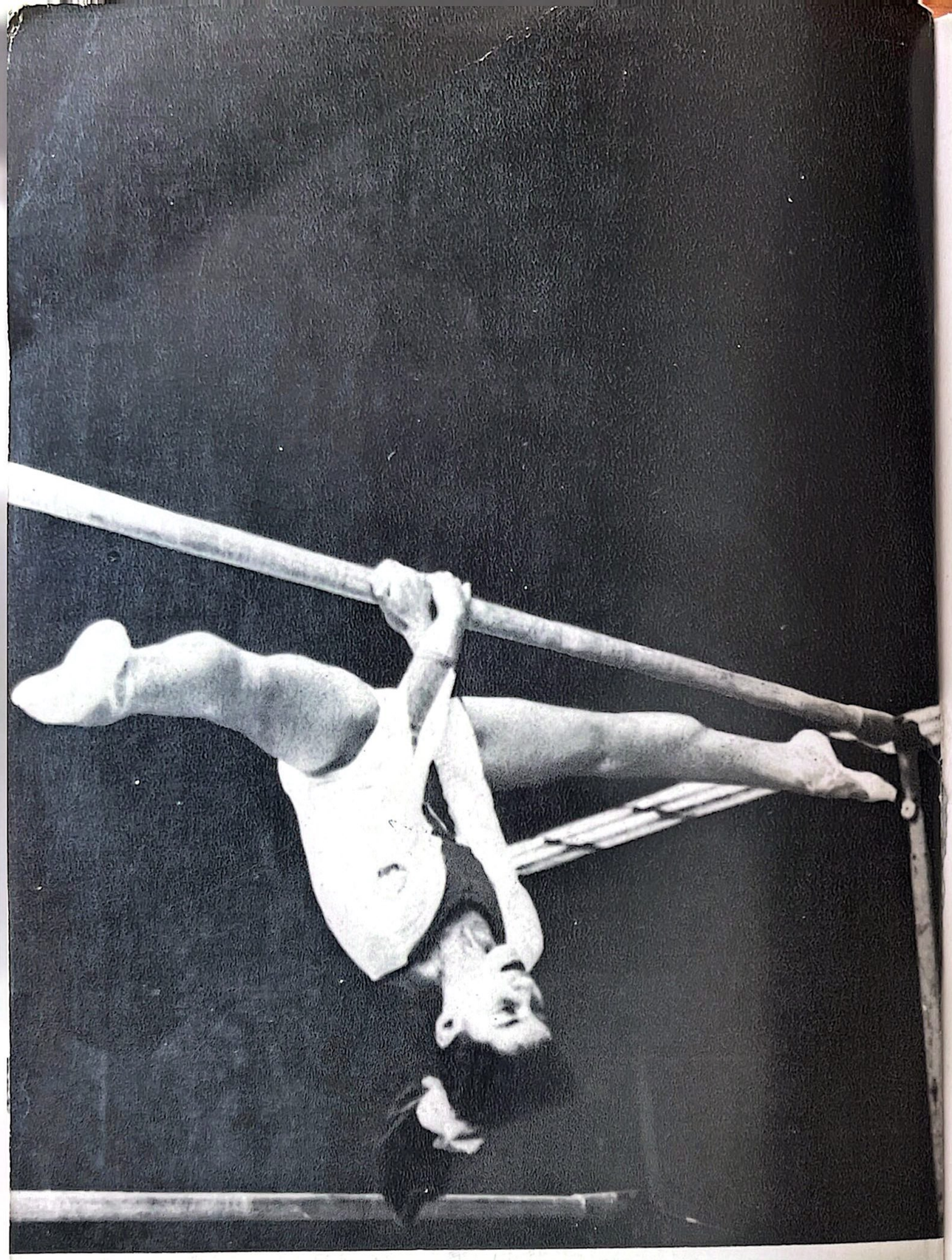
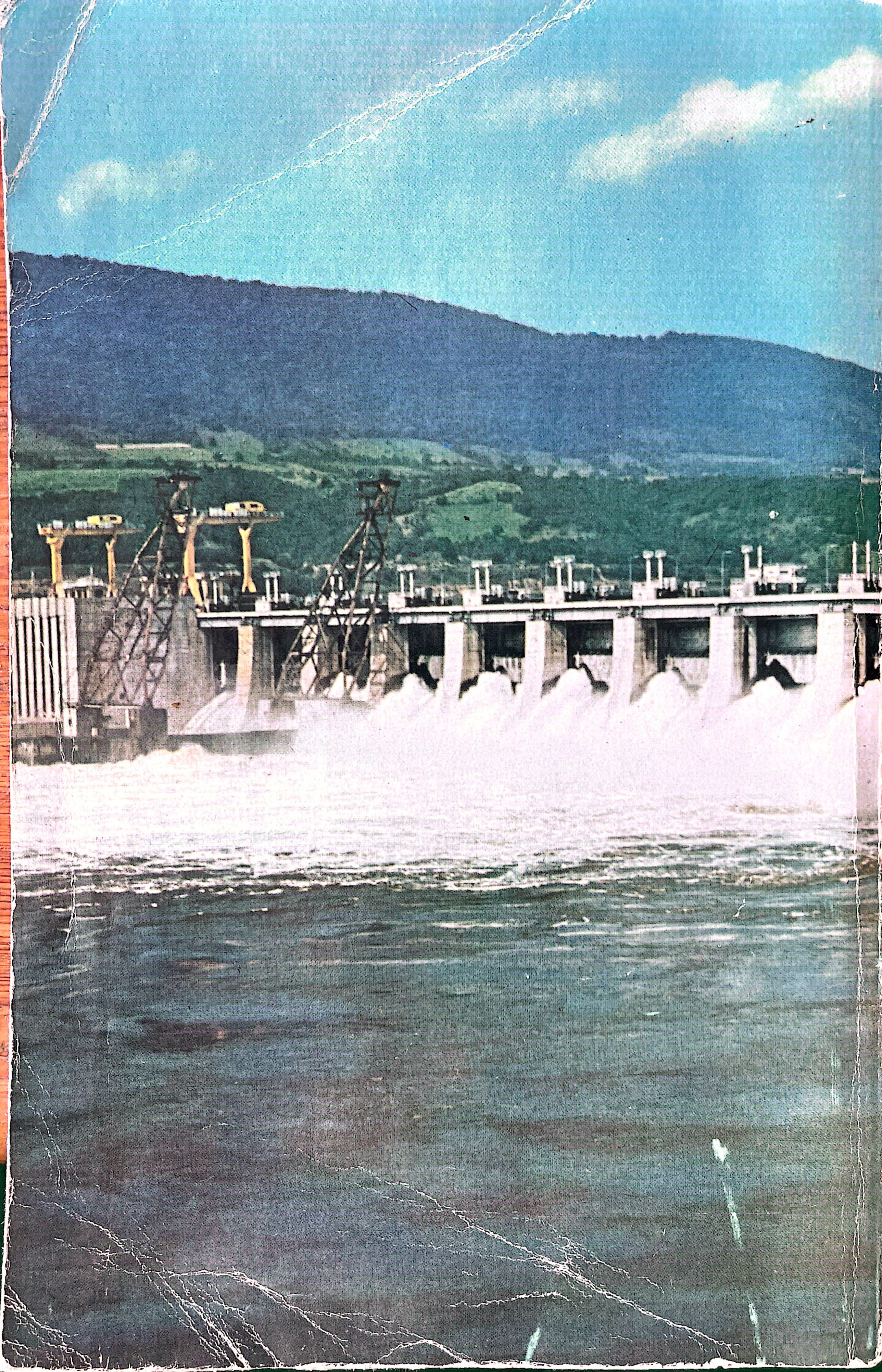


Vida Geza – Dance

Handball team – world champion

Tîrgu Mureș, Swimming pool





At parallel bars
– Nadia Comăneci – European champion